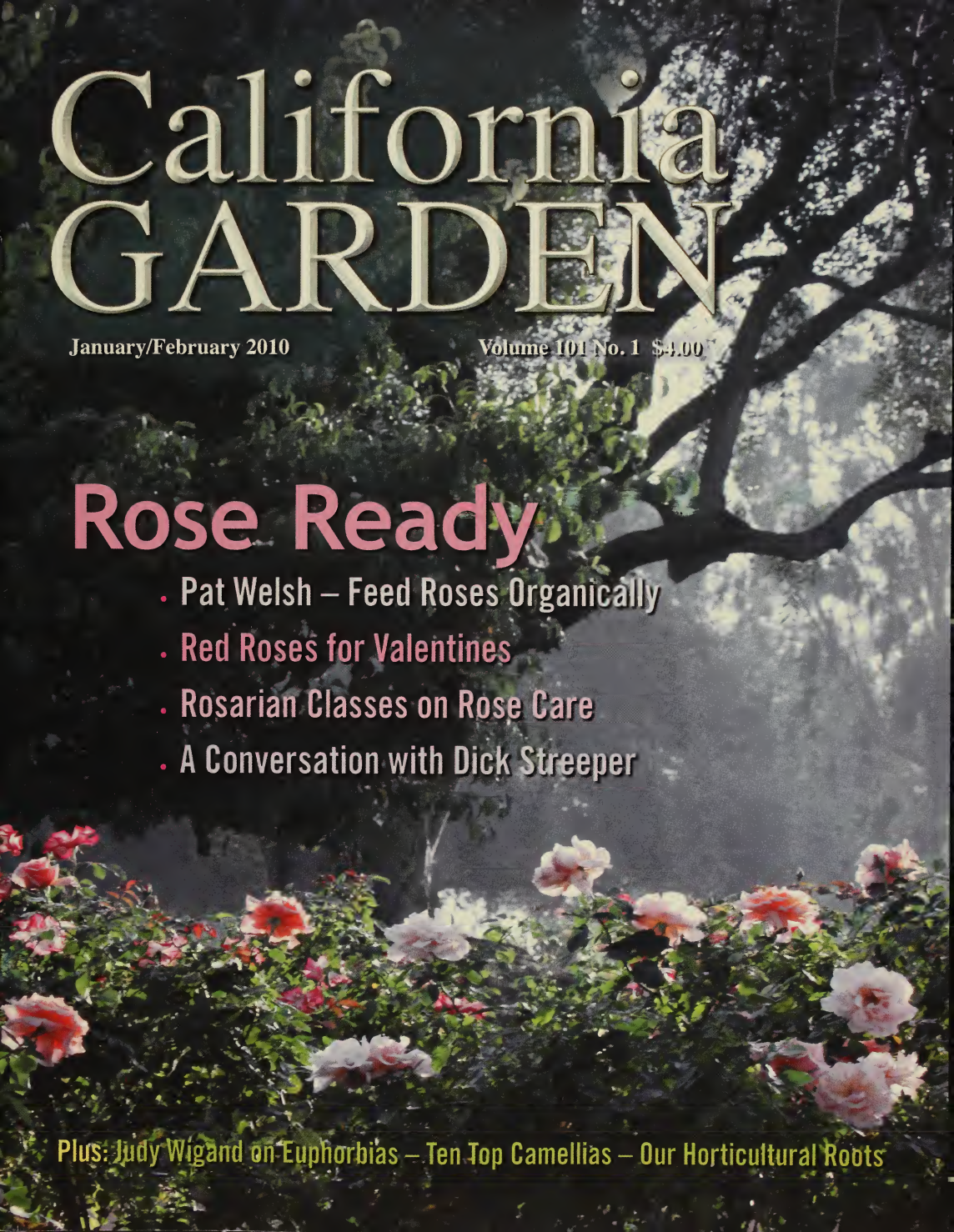
California GARDEN

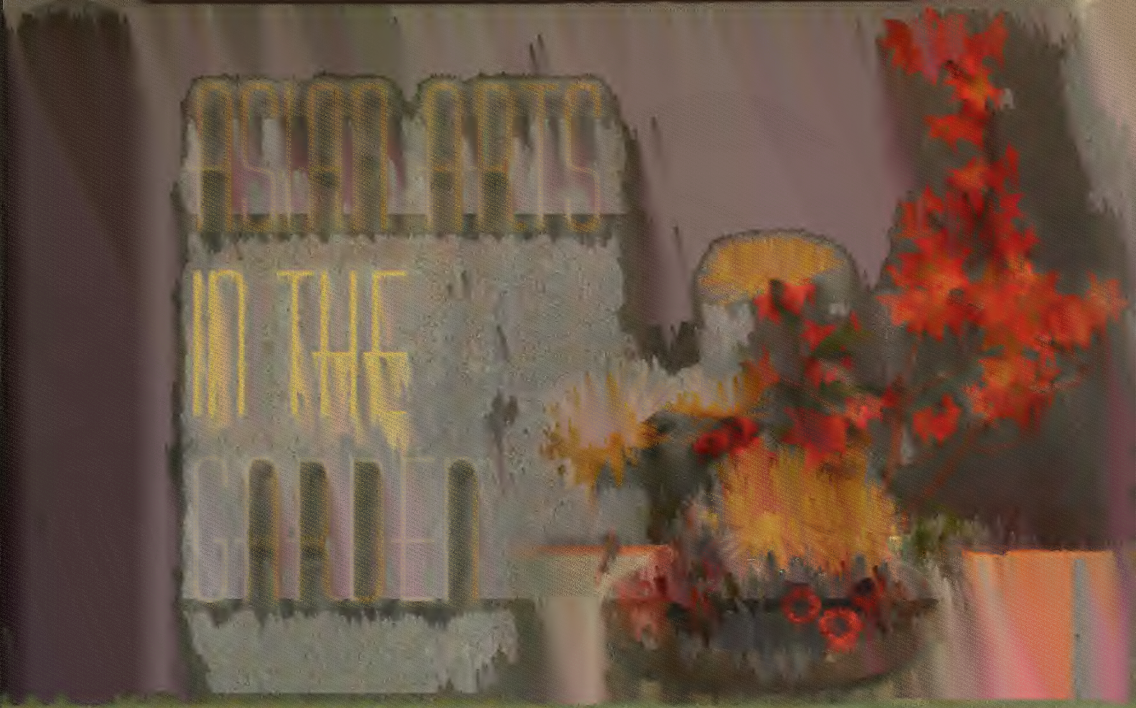
January/February 2010 Volume 101 No. 1 $4.00



Rose Ready

- Pat Welsh – Feed Roses Organically
- Red Roses for Valentines
- Rosarian Classes on Rose Care
- A Conversation with Dick Streeper

Plus: Judy Wigand on Euphorbias – Ten Top Camellias – Our Horticultural Roots


ASIAN ARTS
IN THE
GARDEN

February 23, 9 am – 5 pm AND February 24, 9 am – 4 pm

ego otanic e l br ting an horticulture o st g sp ys, ectu es, and demonstrations.

Ikebana floral arrangements created by members of the La Jolla Chapter of the Ohara School of Ikebana led by Sensi Yaeko Ohta on display in the Ecke Building.

Bonsai Show in the Walled Garden featuring styles of bonsai from Japan, China, Vietnam, and the West. Displays by members of Bonsai and Beyond of Tray Landscape, Saikei, Kusamono, Penjing, Hon Non Bo, Suiseki, and Scholar Rocks.

Soryo Ayako Stott performs a tea ceremony.

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For details of lectures and demonstrations please check the website at www.SDBGarden.org.

Admission: $4 - $12. Free for members.

FORMERLY Quail BOTANICAL GARDENS

San Diego BOTANIC GARDEN

230 Quail Gardens Drive, Encinitas CA 92024

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SPECIAL THANKS
Now is the time Contributors and Dick Streeper

Cover: *The Inez Grant Parker Memorial Rose Garden in Balboa Park has been honored by the World Federation of Rose Societies as one of the best in the world. Photo by Rachel Cobb*

We welcome articles, photographs, drawings and ideas. Deadlines are the 10th of January, March, May, July, September and November. We do not pay for articles or artwork. We cannot guarantee the safe return of materials. *California Garden* reserves the right to edit any and all submitted material. We ask that submissions be email attachments in Microsoft Word documents, or sent to us on a CD. All opinions expressed are those of the authors and do not necessarily reflect the views of the editors of *California Garden*. No endorsement of named products is intended, nor is criticism implied of similar products that are not mentioned.

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California GARDEN

THE MAGAZINE FOR HANDS-ON GARDENERS AND FLORAL DESIGNERS

January/Febraury 2010, Volume 101, Number 1

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FLOWER SHOWS: Show chairperson, please contact *California Garden* if you'd like the magazine sold at your show.

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President's Letter

Welcome to the second century of *California Garden*! As we turn this historic corner and publish the first issue of Volume 101, readers will see a few changes and added features.

Mary James has now edited several issues of the magazine and I want to acknowledge our good fortune in having the volunteer services of this talented and capable writer and editor. Her established reputation in the garden and horticulture communities brings new contributors and new viewpoints to our pages. Among them are Pat Welsh, who will generously share with our readers expert advice from her new book on organic gardening, and Judy Wigand, former proprietor of a destination North County nursery and newspaper columnist, who will write about drought-tolerant perennials and their care. We are delighted to have both as part of our editorial team.

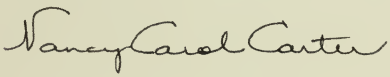
James is attentively guiding content to respond to suggestions received in the recent readers' survey and offering ideas to the editorial board on longer-term improvements to the magazine. Additional thoughts from subscribers about how *California Garden* can be made more informative and enjoyable are always welcome.

Another new feature in the magazine is "Roots," profiles of men and women who have made significant contributions to horticulture in Southern California. The first subject is Francesco Franceschi, who introduced many plants now mainstays of area gardens, including zucchini.

While the San Diego Floral Association has already celebrated the centennial of its founding as an organization (2007) and the centennial of *California Garden* (2009), this year brings yet another anniversary. It was 1910 when the Floral Association officially incorporated and federated with state and national garden club organizations. No celebration of this 2010 centennial is planned, but it offers a timely reminder of the power of an active membership. Volunteers back in 1910 took another step to place our organization on a sound footing and thereby added to the long and productive life of the Floral Association. Five generations later, their contributions are noted.

There is something special about joining such a long and unbroken volunteer tradition and so many ways to be of service. To become a part of the unfolding history of the San Diego Floral Association, call the office or add your name to the next volunteer sign-up page that comes your way.

Nancy Carol Carter



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California GARDEN

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To sign up for your subscription today, please print (or copy) the form below and return it with payment to: San Diego Floral Association, 1650 El Prado #105, San Diego, CA 92101-1684.

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SAN DIEGO FLORAL ASSOCIATION

IMPROVE YOUR FLORAL ARRANGING SKILLS WITH THESE CLASSES

Linda Lindgren is the instructor for this January series which emphasizes the basics of floral arranging for all skill levels. New and intermediate arrangers will practice floral skills in these sessions. Class members are encouraged to bring floral material from their yards to use and share with fellow students.

❑ JANUARY 14 — CLASS 1

Review the basics of floral arranging and make a traditional arrangement in a basic container. Bring a flat, round or other shape container no larger than 8 inches in diameter. List of materials needed is available at sign-up. For all skill levels.

Cost: $15 members; $20 non-members

❑ JANUARY 21 — CLASS 11

Design with your special container. Learn how to design in clear containers and containers with unusual shapes. Bring at least three containers in any shape limited in size to no more than 10 inches high or wide. Students will discuss the mechanics for those containers. List of materials needed is available at sign-up. For all skill levels.

Cost: $15 members; $20 non-members

❑ JANUARY 28 — CLASS 111

Holiday flower arranging is the focus, with emphasis on centerpieces for dining tables and buffets, as well as matching accent pieces for the home. List of materials needed is available at sign-up. For all skill levels.

Cost: $15 members; $20 non-members

Sign up for all three classes and save.
Cost is $37 for members; $45 for non-members

Barbara P. Clark is the instructor for these two February classes on floral arrangements for your home from the garden.

❑ FEBRUARY 11 — CLASS 1

No prior floral or art design knowledge is required. Students will learn how to make beautiful, lasting floral arrangements from flowers and foliage grown in their own garden, open fields and the neighborhood. The class will cover how to choose and grow plants that can be grown in containers and harvested. The principles and elements of good design will be emphasized.

Cost: $10 for members; $12 for non-members

❑ FEBRUARY 18 — CLASS 11

The instructor will teach basic floral arrangement techniques and demonstrate home-grown floral designs. Students will practice techniques and create arrangements with materials from their gardens and commercial sources. No prior floral or art design knowledge is required. Students will be encouraged to perform at their own level of ability. A materials list will be provided at sign up.

Cost: $10 for members; $12 for non-members

Linda Lindgren

It's easy to register! **Just fill out this form (or a copy of it) and mail it to San Diego Floral Association, 1650 El Prado, #105, San Diego, CA 92101-1684**

PAYMENT FOR CLASSES MUST BE INCLUDED.

Name: _____

Address: _____

City/State/Zip: _____

Phone: _____

Email: _____

Amount Enclosed: _____

All classes run from 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m., and are held in Room 104, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego, CA. Coffee and sweets will be provided; bring your own lunch and clippers. Call Kathy Page for more information about San Diego Floral Association workshops at 619-422-2845. To register and pay, call 619-232-5762. Classes are limited to 10 persons and must be prepaid.

Dig in!

News, tips, advice and products you can use

SDFA Honored with Millennium Award

Floral Association praised for a century of community service and garden education

"Kate Sessions would be so proud!"

With those words, San Diego Floral Association president Nancy Carol Carter accepted the prestigious Millennium Award for 2009 from the Friends of Balboa Park. The annual honor recognized the association's decades of effort to better and promote the park it calls home.

The award was presented at a luncheon on Oct. 27 at the Balboa Park Club that drew many floral association members and leaders, past and present.

Also honored with a Millennium Award was Michael J. Stepner, former urban design coordinator and city architect for the city of San Diego. Stepner is currently a professor at the New School of Architecture and UCSD and a principal of Stepner Design Group.

In addition, Friends of Balboa Park presented Inspiration Awards to six individuals for their contributions to the park and its institutions. Among the honorees was Dick Streeper, who was instrumental in creating the Inez Grant Parker Memorial Rose Garden, recently named one of the most beautiful rose gardens in the world.

Presenting the Millennium Award, San Diego City Councilman Todd Gloria recounted the Floral Association's 100 year history as an advocate "for the preservation of San Diego's natural beauty and [promoter] of community improvement." This work dates from the Association's founding in 1907 when members Kate Sessions and George W. Marston fought for preservation of city park lands and professional park planning.

Also remembered was Floral's first president Alfred D. Robinson, who successfully lobbied for the creation of the open-air Botanical Building, a popular attraction in the park from the 1915 Exposition through today.

In addition Gloria also recognized *California Garden* magazine as "the voice of the Floral Association" that is celebrating a century of continuous publication this year. "True to its original purpose," he said, "*California Garden* educates people about gardening in the unique Mediterranean climate of San Diego."

Looking to the future, Gloria noted that, as one of San Diego's oldest civic groups, the Floral Association is "uniquely positioned to move forward with its horticultural education and community service mission ..."

In her acceptance speech, Carter acknowledged the association's "full century of service" and recognized the "generations upon generations" of members whose volunteer efforts reflected their belief that "San Diego could be a better place if made more beautiful by the cultivation of growing things."

Other Floral leaders in attendance included past presidents Kay Harry, Karin Kratz and Dee Krutop; former *California Garden* editors Lucy Warren and Elizabeth Glover; Thea Gurns, editor of *California Garden Centennial Compilation, 1909-2009*; and board members Constance Whitney, Joanne Dossett, Sandra Dysart, Sandra Graff, Michele Kownacki, Cheryl Gaidmore, Lucy Kramer and Barbara Clark.

Friends of Balboa Park presented its first Millennium Awards in 2001 when Betty and Homer Peabody were honored. Other well-know recipients have included Phil Klauber, Pauline de Grange, Kay Porter, Roger Showley, Gene Trepte, Darlene Davies, Ginger and Bob Wallace and George Marston (posthumously). Organizations honored in the past include School in the Park, Girl Scouts and Thursday Club.

The awards reflect the goals of Friends of Balboa Park, founded in 1997, to preserve the legacy of Balboa Park for future generations.

The Millennium Award is on display in the Floral office in Casa del Prado in Balboa Park. — *Mary James*

Nancy Carol Carter accepted the Millennium Award from San Diego City Councilman Todd Gloria at a celebratory luncheon attended by Floral leaders, including past president Kay Harry (far right).

Photos: Paul Nestor

February Speaker

Floral Designs from the Garden with Kathleen Shawl Parkes

Kathleen Shawl Parkes, San Diego County field representative for Monrovia Growers and a floral designer, will present "Grow It, Show It," a floral design program, to Floral members and guests on Wednesday, Feb.17, at 2 p.m. A North County resident and member of the Village Garden Club of La Jolla, Parkes is planning a creative program built around the idea of growing flowers and using them in designs for your home, friends or a flower show.

Parkes is a fan of "Art Alive," the annual floral display at the San Diego Museum of Art, and knows that many of us are intimidated by the thought of designing for that venue. She will provide some courage-building pointers that will build your confidence to participate this spring.

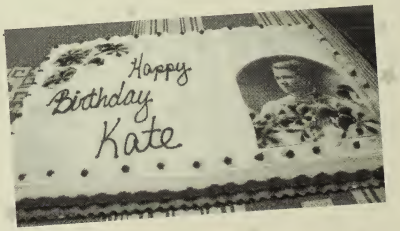
Both Kathleen and her husband, Cory, are dedicated representatives for Monrovia plants and share a love of horticulture and flowers. They have just become the proud parents of their first child, a baby girl appropriately named Sage. They are eagerly anticipating sharing the world of nature with her. Kathleen grew up on a farm in Visalia where her dad shared with her his love of growing things. Village Garden Club members know her as a very knowledgeable and inspiring floral designer.

You will not want to miss this very special afternoon sweetened with cookies and lemonade. Valentine's Day earlier in the week gives us a perfect reason to take an afternoon off to enjoy a day with flowers and floral-loving friends in Balboa Park. Plus parking should be plentiful on a Wednesday afternoon.

Please reserve your space by calling the Floral Association office at 619-232-5762 . — *Sandra Dysart*

Happy Birthday, Kate!

Sun and birthday cake welcomed more than 100 guests to a celebration of Kate O. Sessions' birthday on November 8, 2009, at Presidio Park. On this 152nd anniversary of her birth, the Floral Association was joined by the San Diego Historical Society and Mission Hills Heritage in honoring San Diego's legendary nursery owner and horticulturist. Sessions was an active member of the Floral Association and a prolific *California Garden* writer. After a brief presentation about the life and work of Kate Sessions, three students representing Kate Sessions Elementary School joined the program, speaking briefly and carrying home a 'Kate Sessions' geranium for the school garden. Attendees ate cake and enjoyed a visit to the Serra Museum before setting off on a guided walk through Presidio Park with Ranger Kim Duclo. We will be celebrating Kate again next November at the Marston House and with a Balboa Park walk. – *Nancy Carol Carter*



Students from Kate Sessions Elementary School shared in birthday cake honoring their school's namesake and took geraniums named after the famed horticulturist home to their school garden.

Photos: Kay Harry

Oaks Threatened by New Pest

Moving Firewood Endangers Trees Now Under Attack Around the County

By Vincent Lazaneo

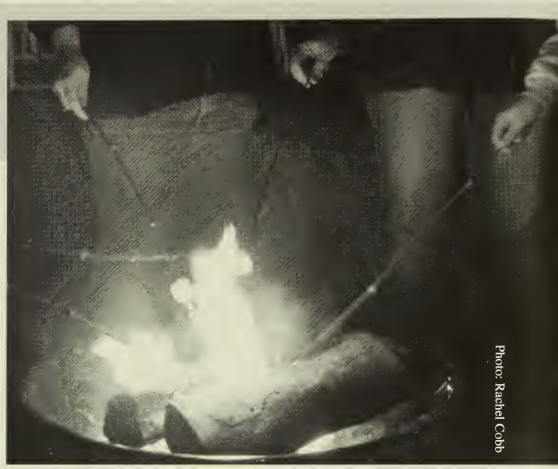


Photo: Rachel Cobb

Oaks have been an integral part of our ecosystem for centuries, but the survival of some native species in Southern California is now threatened by a small beetle, the gold spotted oak borer.

GSOB is not native to California, but it was detected last year infesting oaks in the mountains east of San Diego. Coast live oaks, canyon live oaks and black oaks were attacked by the borer and over 17,000 trees have been killed in a 28,000-acre area in and around the communities of Descanso, Guatay and Pine Valley. The Engelmann oak seems to be resistant to the pests.

Countless numbers of additional oaks could die if the borer spreads to other areas of the county and state. Officials are concerned that the public may, unknowingly, spread the borer by transporting oak firewood infested with the pest. If you use firewood, please do your part to combat GSOB by not transporting oak firewood from areas infested with the pest. A map of infested areas is available at *http://groups.ucanr.org/gsob/* along with photos of the pest and other information.

If you visit a campground or park, there are three additional things you can do to help protect native oaks:

1. Do not transport oak firewood into or out of campgrounds or parks.
2. Leave oak firewood at home and use local sources of firewood when you camp or have a picnic.
3. When you use local firewood, leave any unburned wood on-site when you return home.

It's important NOT to transport any oak firewood because even sound-looking wood can contain borers. The female GSOB lays eggs in bark crevices. The larvae feed on live tissue (cambium) beneath the bark on the trunk and larger branches. Mature larvae are white, legless, slender and about three-fourths inch long. They pupate in the outer bark and leave "D" shaped exit holes about one-eighth inch wide when they emerge.

The adult GSOB is a small bullet-shaped beetle about three-eighths inch long with 6 golden yellow spots on its dark green forewings. Adult beetles are active during warm months of the year and may feed on foliage, but are rarely seen.

Signs that a tree may be infested include crown-thinning, the beginning of significant leaf loss and die-back of twigs. Larval feeding kills patches and strips of cambium which causes dark staining and sap flow on the bark surface. Prolonged infestation causes limb die-back and eventual tree death.

Researchers are studying GSOB and methods that can be used to combat the pest. Tests are being conducted to evaluate the effectiveness of pesticides against the insect. At this time it is not known if any insecticide product will save infested oaks or help protect healthy trees.

Chemical treatment is expensive and it may pose a hazard to people and the environment. You should not apply any pesticide unless you know it will be effective and not harmful. To reduce the population of GSOB, you can treat dead or dying oaks with one of the following three methods. They are listed in the order of their effectiveness.

1. Chip infested wood into one-inch pieces. (The most effective method). A four-inch layer of chips can be spread as mulch on the ground to control weeds and conserve moisture.
2. If oak wood can not be chipped, cover it with a thick (6 mil) UV-stabilized, durable plastic tarp. Place the wood in a sunny location and keep it covered from spring through September. Pin or otherwise secure all edges of the tarp to the ground to prevent beetles from escaping.
3. Season oak firewood, with the bark removed, in direct sunlight for the entire growing season. Split large pieces of wood into smaller pieces for faster drying. Place wood where it will receive the most sun and turn over the wood monthly to expose all surfaces to direct sun.

Vincent Lazaneo is urban horticulture advisor for UC Cooperative Extension.

Trees of Balboa Park: Pink Trumpet Tree

The pink trumpet tree can reach heights of 40-60 feet with an upright, round canopy. Leaves are smooth, dark, green, and palmately compound with 3-5 oblong leaflets that are 5-6 inches long.

Blooms occur in late winter to early spring while the tree is still deciduous. The clusters of blooms are lavender-pink. The flowers are trumpet shaped, about 2 inches long with a yellow throat. The tree may have a second or third light bloom later in the summer of fall with the leaves present. Flowers are followed by brown seed pods that contain winged seeds. Long used by the indigenous people of many South American countries for various medicinal purposes from allergies to internal disorders, the Brazilians call it the "Divine Tree." It is currently being studied in cancer research.

The pink trumpet tree is growing in the Desert Garden and the Kate Sessions Balboa Park Nursery. The golden trumpet tree, *Tabebuia chrysotricha*, is also growing in the Desert Garden. It has bright yellow flowers and is also native to Brazil.

Excerpted from Trees and Gardens of Balboa Park *(2001; $25) and reprinted with permission from Kathy Pulplava, Paul Sirois, the City of San Diego Park and Recreation Department and Tecolote Publications.*

Photos: Don Walker, Courtesy of the San Diego Horticultural Society, reprinted from *Ornamental Trees of San Diego.*

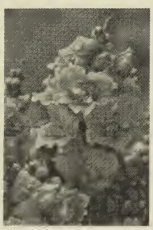
Did You Know...?

Win With All-America Selections

Gardeners who grow from seed often get to enjoy new varieties before they become widely available in nurseries. Some newcomers to try are the annual All-America Sections (AAS) winners, seed-grown flowers and vegetables tested in home gardens across the U.S. The 2010 awards go to four flowers considered superior performers by the Illinois-based AAS, now in its 8th decade of plant evaluations.

Two of the 2010 winners - the charming 'Endurio Sky Blue Martien' viola and 'Twinny Peach' snapdragon with its sunny azalea-like blooms - are cheery additions to winter gardens here. The other two winners - butterfly favorite 'Mesa Yellow' blanket flower (*Gaillardia*) and the white and purple-pink 'Zahara Starlight Rose' zinnia - can be grown in spring for summer color.

Retailers with these seeds – and sometimes bedding plants — are listed on the AAS Web site at *www.all-americaselections.org.*



— Mary James

Left: Viola F1 'Endurio Sky Blue Martien', AAS 2010 Cool Season Award Winner

Right: Snapdragon F1 'Twinny Peach', AAS Bedding Plant Award Winner

Judy's Perennials

By Judy Wigand

Elite Euphorbias

Say 'I do' to these colorful plants for charming companions in the garden

Passionate gardeners always are keen on finding plants that "marry" or "knit together" the various foliage and flowers found in a mixed perennial garden. No group of plants does this better than euphorbias (yew-FOR-bee-ahs), sometimes known as garden spurges. They are highly regarded for their brilliant chartreuse bracts, textural foliage and elegant growth habit - all of which places them among the elite of superior garden plants.

One of the most unusual attributes of euphorbias is their atypical flower form. What appear to be flower petals are actually bracts, which are part of the leaf structure and the source of their sought-after bright chartreuse hue. Toward the center of the bracts are the flowers, which are small, insignificant and absent of petals. Those amazing bracts hold their color for many months and blend exceptionally well with most garden color schemes. Think about the dynamics of combining lime with purple, magenta or citrusy orange.

Euphorbias also offer a variety of interesting lance-shaped foliage in colors ranging from dark green to blue-green, reddish maroon and bluish gray. As the renowned British gardener Margery Fish stated, "Flowers may come and flowers may go, but that handsome mass of foliage will be there as a foil and a furnishing and a refreshment for many years." I say, "Bravo Margery!"

In addition to their ornamental qualities, these plants are one of the easiest perennials to cultivate. Their drought tolerance and adaptability to a variety of conditions - full sun to partial shade, clay or sandy soils - add to their glowing reputation. The key to growing them successfully is to provide excellent drainage. They have no disease or pest problems.

With that in mind, here are my recommendations for several common cultural scenarios.

Stylish Sun Lovers

Most euphorbia varieties prefer a full sun exposure. Two of the most striking in foliage color are the bluish gray *E.* 'Blue Haze' and *E.* 'Blackbird.' The foliage of these two hybrids easily stands out among other green-leaved plants. Add to that their dramatic, lime-green bracts and you've got a one-two punch that lends elegance to the surrounding plantings.

As a tidy mound, the 18-inch-tall and 24-inch wide 'Blue Haze' is well suited for the edge of a sunny border or path. It takes the heat during the warmest of summer months and keeps its compact shape, making it a great border candidate.

'Blackbird' is highly sought after for its stunning dark purple-black foliage. Its lance-shaped, reddish purple leaves deepen in color in the cooler seasons and into early spring, when it starts to show its magnificent chartreuse bracts. It is slightly larger than 'Blue Haze,' forming a mound 2 feet tall and wide.

Cut the old flowering stems of these two euphorbias low to the ground after blooming is done, usually around early summer. This will promote fresh new stems as autumn arrives.

Drama For Partial Shade

Many varieties of euphorbia tolerate and even prefer a break from full-sun. Too much shade, though, can cause flowering stems of larger varieties to reach out for light or, worse, provide too little stimulation for healthy growth. Morning sun with afternoon shade or dappled shade all day are two conditions that work well for many euphorbias.

Two hybrids, *E.* 'Helena's Blush' and *E.* 'Efanthia,' appreciate time out of full sun. 'Helena's Blush' has petite green-and-cream variegated foliage, with a hint of pink on the underside of the leaves. Its glowing bracts also are bicolor - chartreuse with apple green, adding greatly to its charm. The bracts are held loosely on wiry stems, giving it an airy feel. A compact grower at 12 inches tall by 18 inches wide, 'Helena's Blush' is a perfect choice for tucking in along a path.

'Efanthia' has showy multicolored reddish foliage and brilliant chartreuse flower spikes in spring. This plant also has a compact habit, to about 20 inches tall.

Cut the stems of both low to the ground after flowering has finished and bracts are starting to brown, usually at the onset of summer.

Euphorbia 'Diamond Frost' is a lovely, evergreen variety that bears masses of small, pure white, flowerlike bracts held above finely textured, apple-green foliage. This unusual hybrid adds sparkle to a partial-shade or woodland setting. It appreciates being kept evenly moist and grown in richly amended soil that offers good drainage. Its average size is 12 to 18 inches tall and wide. In our mild-climate areas, 'Diamond Frost' blooms year-round.

Got Clay?

Clay soils typically retain moisture and offer valuable nutrients that help promote healthy growth. Clay soils can also go for long periods between waterings. Normally associated with poor drainage, clay soils are only risky for euphorbias if the plants are over-watered. That said, there are a few species that handle clay soils better than others.

Although *Euphorbia characias* enjoys somewhat dry conditions, it is more tolerant of clay soils than other euphorbias as long as there is good drainage. It has a central taproot that adapts to a variety of soils. This clump-forming perennial resents being transplanted once established.

One of the most architectural of all the euphorbias available, *E. characias* has cylindrical bract clusters, which are large and showy, and bushy, bluish-green foliage. The entire plant in bloom reaches about 4 feet tall or taller, depending on the subspecies or hybrid. If the bracts are left to mature, it throws seed in all directions. The resulting seedlings can be transplanted while very young.

Euphorbia characias ssp. wulfenii is among the most widely cultivated forms, with larger clusters of bracts and a slightly taller

Euphorbia rigida

Euphorbia 'Efanthia'

Euphorbia characias ssp wulfenii

Euphorbia x martinii 'Rudolph'

Photo: Judy Wigand

growth habit. Many hybrids arising from this plant make excellent specimens when used alone or placed with lower-growing perennials that help show off those lime-green bracts.

Euphorbia x *martinii*, a wild cross between *E. characias* and *E. amygdaloides*, is another superb euphorbia that tolerates clay soil. Erect, reddish stems with gray-green leaves reach 3 feet tall, with bract clusters that measure 5 to 6 inches across. I love how this plant's red stems can be paired with red-flowering plants.

Got Sand?

Many Mediterranean euphorbias are accustomed to growing in sandy or rocky soils. These gritty soils provide the excellent drainage that these plants love, as long as they have ample water until established. These conditions are found along the coast, as well as in the interior regions of San Diego County where decomposed granite is prevalent, and in our desert areas, where summer temperatures often reach triple digits. Cactuses and succulents make great partners for these tough euphorbias.

Euphorbia rigida is a low-growing species reaching 24 inches tall and wide. Small, linear, steel-blue foliage spirals around its erect stems. Appearing in late winter into early spring, the bracts are smaller yet no less stunning than the larger varieties. If placed in too rich a soil, *E. rigida* will not bloom reliably. In fact, poor soil helps promote blooming. This is a surprisingly flexible euphorbia that adapts to coastal, valley or desert regions with dry, rocky conditions. It is exceptionally tolerant of heat, sun, cold and drought, surviving temperatures as low as 15 F.

Euphorbia myrsinites is a ground-hugging species less than 8 inches tall. Well suited to warmer inland regions, it is tough-as-nails, growing well in harsh conditions. Its trailing, bluish stems bearing pointed silvery leaves are especially complementary to succulents and sedges.

Judy Wigand is a lecturer and freelance garden writer. She operated Judy's Perennials, a specialty nursery, for 15 years in San Marcos.

Resources

Some of the more popular and newer hybrid euphorbias can be found in area garden centers and nurseries. Here are some mail-order vendors that offer a wide selection of euphorbias mentioned above.

- Digging Dog Nursery, Albion, Ca. 95410; (707) 937-1130 | *www.diggingdog.com*
- Greer Gardens, Eugene, Ore.; (800) 548-0111 | *www.greergardens.com*
- Joy Creek Nursery, Scappoose, Ore.; (503) 543-7474 | *www.joycreek.com*

Ten Must-Have Camellias

Three Camellia Species Fill Winter Gardens with Beautiful Color

By Dean Turney

Here are 10 camellias that not only will thrive in San Diego County, but will supply gardeners with many beautiful blooms from late November until March. I chose these varieties for their hardiness, their readiness to bloom and their ability to survive even with some mistreatment.

They are 'Silver Waves,' 'Guilio Nuccio,' 'Tiffany,' 'Mrs. D.W. Davis,' 'Dr. Clifford Parks,' 'Valentine Day,' 'Prima Ballerina,' 'Margaret Davis,' 'High Fragrance' and 'Minato-No-Akebono.'

Before looking at my 10 in detail, be forewarned. This article discusses three species of camellia: *C. japonica*, *C. reticulata* and *C. sasanqua*. They are all camellias, in the way oranges, grapefruit and tangerines are all citrus.

Bold Reticulatas

First, let's look at the grapefruit of the camellia world, the big-blossomed, sometimes hard-to-find reticulatas. If I had to sell all my camellias except one, I would have to keep '**Valentine Day**.' It is a large pink, formal double bloom of reticulata parentage. All that means is that the bloom consists of many petals in nice neat rows with a center that looks like a rose. Some will even look like a pink rose bud on a pink plate of flat petals (these are the ones I like best).

I give mine a lot of light, but I live close to the coast. Inland, provide more shade. Reticulatas have an open growth habit, so you can see through the branches all year long. 'Valentine Day' grows fairly quickly into a mature plant and is great in the landscape.

Another reticulata on the list is '**Dr. Clifford Parks**.' It produces giant ball-like, dark red blooms with yellow stamens intermixed. It also has that fast open growth habit of most reticulatas. Plant these two in a location that will impress those winter guests.

Favorite Japonicas

Japonicas are more common and in most garden shops by late fall. They tend to grow densely, making great hedges that bloom and block the neighbors or other unsightly objects. They can be kept short or allowed to become small (20-feet tall) trees. Prune them in March to fit your space. As with all happy camellias, they keep their leaves all year.

Remember camellias have shallow roots and will not damage your foundation. You can plant them next to the house or driveway as long as you leave room for the termite tent and painter (this is SoCal). Camellias like to be a little root-bound so they also are great for planters. Only 10 feet between the neighbor's house and yours? Think camellia.

There are six japonicas on my list.

'Silver Waves' has large white single blooms of wavy petals with a stand of yellow stamens in the middle, all on an evergreen plant with shiny green leaves. What more could you want for an impressive landscape plant? It has a long bloom season from November through March.

Photos left to right: Guilio Nuccio, Valentine Day, Dr. Clifford Parks.
Photos: Courtesy the American Camellia Society

'Guilio Nuccio' is named after one of the owners of Nuccio's Nurseries, the renowned camellia growers in Altadena, Ca. This japonica has large coral-rose red blooms. 'Guilio Nuccio' is a great grower and bloomer, and I am sure makes its namesake proud. For something different, buy 'Guilio Nuccio' variegated (the red blooms with white blotches).

'Tiffany' has large, light pink blooms on that characteristic japonica plant. I might sound repetitive, but this also is a great landscape variety.

'Mrs. D.W. Davis' has very large, blush pink to almost white blooms and classic dark green foliage. Need I say a great landscaper?

'Prima Ballerina' has wavy light pink petals shaded deeper pink at the edges. This semi-dwarf grows very compactly. Choose it for those tight spaces, maybe as a low border or foundation planting under a north facing window. Don't worry that it might get lost, for when it blooms, its medium to large flowers will jump out at you and visitors, demanding attention.

'Margaret Davis' - what a lady! Imagine, creamy white carnations edged in dark pink on a *Ficus benjamina*. That's 'Margaret Davis.' One is not enough; I have four.

Scent, Yes; Yellows, On The Way

I end my list with two recent introductions: '**High Fragrance**' and '**Minato-No-Akebono**.' They are both hybrids; their parents were different species. The common parent is a fragrant species named *Camellia lutchuensis*. Most camellias have no odor.

'High Fragrance' has pale ivory-pink blooms with deeper pink at the edges. 'Minato-No-Akebono' has bright pink single blooms (one row of petals per bloom not one bloom per plant). 'Minato-No-Akebono' tends to bloom early while 'High Fragrance' blooms more mid-season.

Since these are hybrids, do not give them as much fertilizer as the others. For the first couple of years, you may just want to wave the fertilizer over them and drop it on your japonicas. The hybrids also tend to be slightly tougher to get "established." (See the adjacent article for more on establishing and caring for camellias.)

As you may have noticed, my list contained blooms in red, pink, white and mixes of those three colors. What about yellow? Yellows are on their way, thanks to many hybridizers who are hard at work. As of yet, there are a few yellowish blooms available, but only the species, *C. nitidissima,* is truly bright yellow. It produces small blooms and can be troublesome to grow.

As a final note, disbud your camellias (remove some of the buds) if you want bigger blooms (you do the same with your fruit trees). Watch for scale and mites. If found, you can remove the affected leaves, spray with soapy water or paraffin oil, or if you must, pesticide as directed. Neither scale nor mites will kill your plant over night, so don't fret. You have a while to solve the problem.

And if you have any questions, remember the San Diego Camellia Society has its annual show and sale the first full weekend in February, Feb. 6 and 7 this year, in Room 101 of Casa del Prado in Balboa Park. Hours are Saturday from 1 to 4 p.m. and Sunday 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. We will answer questions other times if you contact us at (760) 942-1919.

Dean Turney is president of the San Diego Camellia Society.

Photo Courtesy the American Camellia Society

Minato-No-Akebono

Camellia Care

As with any plant, camellias need a good start in life to become "established." This includes the right location, soil, nutrients and water.

The true hardiness of camellias can be appreciated once they become "established." If you doubt this, take a walk through one of San Diego's older neighborhoods. You will find camellias taller than a house, covered in blooms with shiny green foliage. While the house may need painting and the grass may be dead, the camellia, probably 'Debutante,' is "established." You could take a chainsaw to that camellia and cut it off a foot above the ground. If you give it some water, it will grow back. If you dug it out, with enough of the root ball intact, you could take it home, plant it in your garden and it would survive. Once "established," camellias are drought tolerant, low maintenance and disease resistant.

That said, how do camellias become "established?" First and foremost is location, location, location! Camellias need indirect bright sun light; think the north side of the house or under tall trees or lath-covered patio. The closer to the beach one lives, the more sun camellias can tolerate. It is said that the redder the blooms, the more sun a camellia can withstand. The red- blooming camellia 'Ace o' Hearts' can take full sun even in the east county, as will camellias in the species sasanqua (sometimes sold as "sun camellias"). A good sasanqua to keep in mind is 'Yuletide,' a very tough little plant sporting bright red blooms with bright yellow stamens; usually it is in full bloom in December.

After location, be aware of the soil where the plant is to be placed. Camellias want an acidic environment and they want that acid from mulch. So you want to plant camellias with mulch and top dress them with mulch. And you want to re-apply that mulch as it breaks down. The mulch will aid moisture retention and thus reduce the amount of water needed to establish the plant. Plus it will feed the camellia and help keep it healthy. All, in the long run, means less time, work and money from you.

Camellias are not bog plants. They do not want their feet soaking in water. They also are very shallow rooted. This makes them easy to transplant, but also explains why they suffer if planted too deep or in heavy clay soil. The sure-fire way to kill a camellia or at best make it very unhappy is to bury it too deep. With all that good mulch you are using to plant your camellia, you can expect the plant to sink as the mulch decays. Therefore, plant camellias high, not on drugs (no fertilizer), but above the level of the surrounding ground. About two inches is good. Having placed your camellia in the proper location with a good amount of mulch and at an elevated position, you are well on your way to having an "established" camellia.

Now it is time to sit back and let your camellia do its "establishing" thing. You will be required to intervene at least once a week to water if the plant is not on automatic irrigation. Keep it moist, but not soggy. Remember, it must breathe. If in doubt, feel under the mulch. If it's moist, go watch TV. If it feels dry, add water.

Some plants require frequent feeding, but not camellias. Do not over feed your camellias. You will be working too hard and they will not appreciate the attention. The most you need to do is feed cottonseed meal and a little iron three times a year, but not during football season (for real). The first feeding should occur around St. Patrick's Day, think green. Second feeding near Memorial Day; they should be growing. Make the final feeding on the Fourth of July. Then celebrate -and start watching for the buds to form at the leaf joints. — *Dean Turney*

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ROOTS

Profiles in Horticultural History

By Nancy Carol Carter

Francesco Franceschi

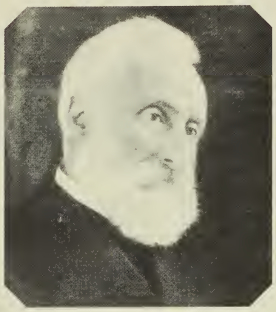

Photo reprinted from: *Dr. F. Franceschi: Pioneer Plantsman* by Will Beittel (1984)

Emanuele Orazio Fenzi, better known as Dr. Francesco Franceschi, needed just 20 years in Southern California to permanently change our gardening history. He was descended from an old and aristocratic Tuscan family, schooled in six languages and educated as a lawyer. He fled Italy when the family bank under his management failed.

Fenzi changed his name when he came to Santa Barbara in 1893 to devote himself to horticulture, his true life interest. While operating the family bank, he had served as president of the Royal Tuscan Society of Horticulture and developed a botanical garden near Florence, introducing Indian bamboo and other plants to Italy.

Francheschi thought Santa Barbara the perfect spot to acclimatize plants from around the world. He was captive to a horticultural theory promoted by Swedish botanist Carl Linnaeus (who gave us the binomial plant name system used today). Linnaeus hypothesized in the 18th century that all plants are globally adaptable. He believed that even tropical plants could grow in Arctic climates if given sufficient opportunity to adjust, or acclimatize, to changed growing conditions.

The benign climate of Santa Barbara allowed Franceschi to stretch the limits of the flawed acclimatization theory. Hundreds of newly introduced plants flourished under his care and spread out across the state. Franceschi used his personal funds to support his work, but developed a nursery business to help defray the expenses of plant imports and experimentation.

In 1895 he published an inventory of exotic plants already growing in the area, *Santa Barbara Exotic Flora*. This small book is still useful as a guide to early landscape plants used in Southern California. Through his writing and attendance at conferences and flower shows, Franceschi became well known throughout California as the foremost authority on rare plants and an invaluable channel of international exchange among botanists and horticulturists.

San Diego nursery owner Kate O. Sessions became a family friend, as well as a business contact. She sometimes stopped in Santa Barbara when traveling by steamer to San Francisco. The Franceschis were known for their hospitable welcome and generous servings of unfamiliar foods. While traveling by train during her 1925 European trip, Sessions had the small world experience of encountering one of the Franceschi sons, grown up and serving as an Italian army officer.

In Franceschi, Sessions found a botanical soul mate, someone as dedicated as she to experimenting with new plants and expanding horticultural knowledge. The two nursery owners also did considerable business with each other, keeping up a brisk exchange of plant material needed to satisfy customer orders. Business letters and postcards documenting this trade are found in the Francheschi papers at the University of California Bancroft Library in Berkeley.

Several plant introductions made by Kate Sessions in San Diego came directly from Franceschi. For example, he gave Sessions the first three fern pine trees (*Podocarpus gracilior*, also known as *Afrocarpus elongatus*) grown in San Diego. He introduced *Phyla nodiflora* (also known as *Lippia repens*), which Sessions championed as a low-water alternative to lawn grass.

After a decade of experimentation, Franceschi found a Montezuma cypress (*Taxodium mucronatum*) that could thrive in Southern California. He also introduced successful species of

Francesco Franceschi *also known as* Emanuele O. Fenzi

Santa Barbara horticulturist and nursery owner.

Born: 1843 in Florence, Italy | Died: 1924 in Tripoli, Libya

DIG DEEPER WITH:

Dr. F. Franceschi, Pioneer Plantsman by Will Beittel; Santa Barbara County Horticultural Society, 1984

"The Life of Dr. Francesco Franceschi and His Park, Parts I and II," by Susan Chamberline; *Pacific Horticulture*, 63: 3 and 4 (July/Aug./Sept. 2002: 4-12 and Oct./Nov./Dec. 2002: 13-19).

See a drawing of Montarioso, Franceschi's home: *www.pearlchasesociety.org/franceschi-house.html*

Cycad

Acacia branch

Coral Tree

avocados, figs and the large Japanese persimmon. He brought in bamboos, one of the more beautiful acacias, coral trees, cycads and many, many other plants. At one point his sales catalog listed 84 varieties of palms. Home gardeners can thank Franceschi (or not) for introducing zucchini.

Franceschi's horticulture work in Santa Barbara is universally recognized as having a profound and lasting impact, but his American venture was fraught with problems, including business deals gone bad, a destructive fire and financial reverses. He returned to Italy in 1913 and was appointed by the Italian government to head an institute charged with developing agriculture and ornamental plantings in Libya, which had become an Italian colony. For several years he led plant introduction experiments in that arid land, reportedly with the same interest and enthusiasm displayed in his California days. He died in Tripoli in 1924 at age 81.

The Santa Barbara nursery of 40 acres atop Mission Ridge was operated for a number of years by some of the six Franceschi children, but eventually closed. The second owner gave the property to the city of Santa Barbara. The grounds were used as a city nursery and in 1931 about half the acreage became Franceschi Park, known today for its exotic plants and unsurpassed views. The Franceschi home, Montarioso (airy mountain), is situated in the park and the object of a preservation campaign by the Pearl Chase Society, a non-profit Santa Barbara conservancy.

Francesco Franceschi was just the third person to be awarded the Frank N. Meyer Memorial Medal for distinction in plant introduction by the American Genetic Association. On this occasion in 1922, an official of the Department of Agriculture wrote that his plant introductions to the United States were more numerous than that of any other one person. Francheschi also was lauded for bringing new and delicious fruits to America and for making California gardens more beautiful for all time.

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Feb. 8: Meadows by Design
Internationally-respected grass expert John Greelee, author of *The American Meadow Garden*, will explore new developments in meadow making and discuss why and how turf lawns can be converted into natural lawns. Members free, non-members $10.

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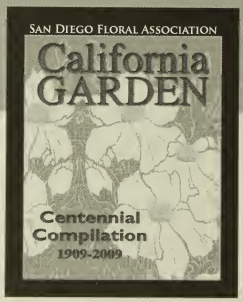

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Reviews

All of the books reviewed in *California Garden* are part of the San Diego Floral Association Library collection (located in Room 105, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego, CA). Come, browse—and if you're a SDFA member—check them out!

Sunset Sheds & Garages

By Scott Atkinson
Sunset Books
$19.95 (Paperback); 192 pages

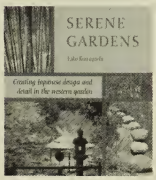
Is this the year that your garden finally will be crowned with the gazebo, greenhouse or potting shed you have been thinking about for so long? Or, it is time to update the garage with an organized space for garden equipment?

Sunset offers its usual combination of tantalizing ideas and practical how-to guidance in *Sheds & Garages*.

Acknowledging that outbuildings are usually constructed for functionality, the author claims a romantic link with a rural past—a time when gardening and housing animals were part of our daily rhythm—and invites homeowners to be creative about how an additional outdoor structure can be designed and used today. Tea house, art studio, play house or practical storage and gardening space are just a few possibilities.

This book is illustrated with a variety of appealing projects. In fact, readers with an existing outbuilding may find inspiration in these pages for adding charm and better integrating the structure into their garden.

The author suggests that a small outbuilding is the perfect project for the budding carpenter. Construction is basic and forgiving, especially if the building does not require polished interior finishing, wiring or plumbing. The greatest part of this book is given over to tools and materials, step-by-step instructions and sample plans. These are clearly set out and well illustrated. A short index saves time when comparing features. — *Nancy Carol Carter*



Serene Gardens: Creating Japanese Design and Detail in the Western Garden

By Yoko Kawaguchi
Trafalgar Square Publishing
$18 (Paperback); 144 pages

Japanese gardens have long been revered for their beauty and assumed difficulty to maintain outside of an Eastern climate. However, in *Serene Gardens*, Yoko Kawaguchi attempts to make the most revered features understandable and achievable for the Western gardener.

Kawaguchi infuses both history and technique into *Serene Gardens*, beginning with a rich account of the evolution of garden style in Japan. She then seamlessly moves on to the four basic types of Japanese gardens: hill and pond, dry, tea and courtyard. Each one is described with a blend of history and technique so as to demonstrate that Japanese gardens are not simply about positioning plants and stones; rather, they are about appreciating every element for its natural worth. In describing the significance of rocks, Kawaguchi insists that you must, "...give a rock what it cries for," which demonstrates the Japanese value of appreciating nature.

As someone whose garden knowledge is severely lacking, I found *Serene Gardens* to be the perfect mixture of narrative and instruction. While she explains which plants are best suited for each environment or situation, making the book practical for a Western beginner, Kawaguchi insists that every plant should be respected for its complete beauty and form. This holistic view lends itself to the importance of detail found in the large, striking pictures within the book. In understanding the meaning and function behind such elements as stone basins and stepping stones, I am now more comfortable incorporating them into my own garden. — *Sarah Smith*

Backyards for Kids

By Ziba Kashef and Editors of Sunset Books
Sunset Books
$16.95 (Paperback); 144 pages

I am pleased to inform our members that our extensive horticultural and floricultural library has added a resource book for planning delightful gardens for children.

In the first chapter, "Backyard Basics," Sunset Books has published a motivating guide with detailed instructions on how to plan, build and plant stimulating and unique backyards for children to enjoy. They urge the reader to have children involved with the planning and building. A kid's wish list with an "Age by Age" guide provides some excellent tips on teaching children to build and plant.

The book addresses creating gardens of different sizes and themes such as "Structures, Swings and Things," "Sports and Games" and "Sand Play." For each theme they provide a "Gallery of Great Places" with excellent photos of numerous ideas and plans for tree houses, cabins, castles, canopies and kid decks.

For instance, you will find a Norwegian cabin, a green roof cabin and an inverted tree play space. Another gallery, "Swings and Things," displays a variety of safe swings, play sets and cable rides, all with complete directions. "Sports and Games" for older children deals with open-space sports, train sets, skateboard activity, net games and trampolines. The younger children will benefit from "Sand Play" which shows how to create enclosed sand areas in various sizes and shapes for hours of enjoyment.

A resource list for additional information and materials is included.

For the family who enjoys creating their own ambiance, this is the book to inspire and guide you to a unique and most enjoyable backyard for your children. — *Kay Harry*

Growing Bonsai Indoors
Edited by Pat Lucke Morris and Sigrun Wolff Saphire
Brooklyn Botanic Garden
$9.95 (Paperback);119 pages

One of the joys of Southern California gardening life is that we seldom need to make hard decisions about indoor versus outdoor plant selections. However, even in our benign climate, we may want to cultivate a special plant - such as a bonsai -strictly for interior enjoyment.

The renowned Brooklyn Botanic Garden has published a concise guide for growing indoor bonsai, suitable for all regions of the country. This is a book for someone who simply wants the bare facts about selecting, training and caring for bonsai; it is short on the history and mystical elements of this gardening style. However, the text does set out the design rules for bonsai and uses photographs and line drawings to clearly illustrate each bonsai style.

The tools needed for bonsai care are enumerated. Wiring basics are covered in four pages, with illustrations. Indoor care, watering, fertilizing, soil composition, pest control, plant health and propagation are likewise discussed in adequate, but short sections.

Most useful is the chapter entitled "Encyclopedia of Bonsai for Indoors" which pictures and describes 24 trees suited to indoor bonsai culture. Every tree is discussed in terms of light, temperature, watering, repotting and recommended soil and styling, including tips on wiring. Many of the plants are familiar in our region, including bougainvillea, narrow-leafed bottlebrush and camellia.

In these pages experienced gardeners have reduced bonsai cultivation to its basics, yet the book inspires confidence that enough guidance is present. A detailed index is included and the book is modestly priced.

This book is particularly recommended for anyone who has considered experimenting with a bonsai, but decided the project sounded too complicated. It also will be welcomed by apartment dwellers seeking more interesting gardening projects than the care of common houseplants. Armed with this book, indoor gardeners will find it possible to cultivate their own kumquat, fig or olive tree, just like those with large outdoor gardens. — *Nancy Carol Carter*

Rain Harvesting
What's the Catch?

By Paul Redeker

The Water Conservation Garden has installed a new Rain Harvesting exhibit. A 220 gallon barrel and a 1,100 gallon storage tank demonstrate how to capture, store and use rainwater instead of letting it run off the roof and into storm drains.

Depending on a person's budget or preference, the rain water harvesting options range from a simple system, such as a small container under a downspout, to a more involved system that includes all the "bells and whistles" such as pumps and monitors. There are many ways to go about putting a system together and the garden's new setup is a great place to get ideas.

But why should anyone capture rain water? It may seem silly, at first, to harvest something that falls freely from the sky, but don't we usually cherish those things we lack? Rain harvesting allows us to stock up for future needs, and with the ongoing drought, every little drop of water saved counts.

Other questions come to mind when considering rain harvesting. Can this save me money? And, is this good for the environment?

In some cases, rain harvesting can save money. It all depends upon installation costs, barrel size and the complexity of the system. Where the environment is concerned, rain harvesting does make a difference. By properly keeping rain water on our properties, we not only reduce the spread of chemicals into our oceans, but we improve the quality of ground water, allowing rainwater to soak into our soil and nourish the landscape.

Come visit this new exhibit, located adjacent to the garden's irrigation exhibit, and decide for yourself. You may want to consider the possible savings involved, discover how to design a system to safely store rain water and help reduce storm water runoff, or simply get an idea of how the industry has evolved.

A special thanks to the Ecolife Foundation and Ace Rain Gutters for making this display possible.

The Water Conservation Garden is located on the campus of Cuyamaca Collage in El Cajon. It is open daily and admission is free. For more information, visit *www.thegarden.org*.

Paul Redeker is horticulture and facilities manager for The Water Conservation Garden.

Photo: Paul Redeker

Now is the time

Timely tips to keep your plants happy throughout January and February

African Violets

Barbara Conrad, Carlsbad African Violet Society

- Brush leaves with a soft brush to remove dust.
- Wash plants if needed. Put tin foil under lower leaves and around the pot. Lean plant under warm water at sink. Gently rub or brush leaves with fingers. Dry all droplets of water. Use a paper tower or soft Q-tip to gently dry the centers.

Begonias

Doris Smith, Alfred D. Robinson Begonia Society

- Remove all dead leaves and debris from pots or beds.
- Watch for pests and spray for mildew.
- Go for the tuberous types in February and begin pruning the others. Trim back old growth. Start new canes from the cuttings.
- Repot; up one size is the rule.
- Water less, but do not allow plants to dry out.

Bonsai

Kora Dalager, San Diego Bonsai Club

- Wire your conifer and evergreen trees.
- Graft conifers, deciduous and evergreen trees.
- Adjust watering to winter weather conditions.
- Apply lime sulphur or other dormant spray. Protect the soil and pots from spray.
- Prune fruit-bearing bonsai.
- Watch for aphids and other sucking insects and spray accordingly.
- Search nurseries for deciduous stock.
- Prepare your soil mix for repotting.
- Repot starting in February.

Bromeliads

Mary Siemers, Bromeliad Study Group of Balboa Park

- Water less often during cold weather.
- Collect rainwater for future use.
- Continue to watch for freezing temperatures. When frosts occur, cover plants with an old sheet or similar material (do not use plastic covering).
- You may want to bring some of your more sensitive plants indoors. Do not place plants in front of heating vents. Keep center cups filled with fresh water.

Cacti and Succulents

Don and Laura Starr, The Grateful Shed

- Aeoniums are starting their growth period so now is a good time to propagate some. Cut off the head, let it callus for a week or so and then plant in well-draining cactus and succulent mix. Other good succulents to propagate during the winter months are senecios, sedums and *Echeverria glauca*.
- If it hasn't rained yet, give your succulents a light shower with the hose to wash off dust and debris.
- Begin to move plants gradually to a sunnier location. The weaker winter sun won't burn their leaves.
- Continue to water all plants in containers but cut back the amount by 1/3 to 1/2 as days remain short and temperatures drop.
- Refresh mulch around plants in the ground and in containers. Be sure to leave several inches unmulched around the stem.
- For both winter and summer growers, begin to pot up one size any plants that appear overgrown or need refreshing.
- Clean up desiccated plant materials such as spent and dried flower spikes and dried up leaves at the base of echeverrias, aeoniums and other plants.
- Relocate container plants to sheltered areas or indoors to provide protection from cold weather.
- Prepare container plants or beds for hail or freeze by having thin plastic sheeting at the ready to provide cover overnight if needed.
- Consider propagating or purchasing small succulents to give as gifts, especially to young people. Children find these easy to care for and interesting.

Camellias

Sharon Lee, San Diego Camellia Society

- Check nurseries for camellias in bloom. January through March is the prime bloom months. A few favorites are: 'Silver Waves,' very large pure white with a sunburst of stamens; 'Katie,' a very large salmon-rose semi-double; 'Kramer's Supreme,' fragrant, red, full peony form; 'Carter's Sunburst,' very large, loose peony forms with cerise stripes and flecks on soft pink petals; 'C.M. Hovey' (syn. 'Colonel Firey'), medium sized, brilliant red, formal double.
- Transplant, pot, re-pot or bare-root and re-pot now since camellias are still in their dormant season (October through March). When planting, whether in the soil or in a pot, plant 1 inch higher than soil level. Camellias don't like their crowns covered. Also, remember some camellias like shady spots and some like sun. Check your nursery tag or with nursery personnel.

- Continue to remove all but the largest bud where bud clusters exist. Disbudding provides larger but fewer blooms.
- Prune out branches that might prevent buds from opening.
- Pick up blooms that fall to the ground to prevent petal blight.
- Fertilize in January with 2-10-10 for larger buds. Note that fertilizing this late in the season may produce only marginal results. Add an iron supplement to grow dark green leaves and gypsum to help prevent leaf tip burn.
- Maintain a regular watering regimen. Don't let a plant dry out, but if it rains heavily cut back on supplemental watering. Be sure to monitor plants under eaves and canopies where the rain doesn't reach.

Dahlias

Dave Tooley, San Diego Dahlia Society

- By early January, the tops of any remaining plants should be completely withered. Cut the tops down to just above the ground. Leave tubers in the ground if soil has good drainage; otherwise dig and store.
- Store tubers, without dividing, in a cool place in vermiculite or in peat moss. Leave on soil that clings from their removal from the ground.
- Inspect all tubers stored earlier for any sign of shriveling. If a tuber looks dry add a little moisture. Throw away rotting tubers, those that appear watery or are mushy to the touch.
- Prepare plantings beds in February by turning the soil and adding humus. Dig in the humus and add equal parts of superphosphate and sulfate of potash. Turn the mixture over well. Several weeks before planting add steer or chicken manure and water in well. Just before planting scatter bone meal and blood meal over planting beds and cut in using a rake.
- Sprout some selected roots in February, as these sprouts make good cuttings. If having trouble, apply bottom heat to encourage sprouting.

Epiphyllums

Phil Peck, San Diego Epiphyllum Society

- Collect rainwater and store in opaque containers to prevent infestations of mosquito larvae and algae buildups.
- Protect plants from frost and strong winter winds.
- Use snail and slug bait.
- Spray insecticide only if necessary. Do not use insecticides with an oil-base. Follow manufacturers' directions carefully.
- Prune out dead and unsightly growth.
- Feed mature plants with a 0-10-10 fertilizer to promote blooming in the spring. Use liquid or slow-release granules. Another application may be necessary in about 30 days.

Ferns

Bob Halley, San Diego Fern Society

- Water gently. Do not over water.
- Trim off dead fronds but not green ones. Most small-leaf maidenhairs can be cut back completely.

Winter Cactus and Succulent Show and Sale

Presented by:

The San Diego Cactus And Succulent Society

February 13, 2010

At The Casa Del Prado, Room 101, Balboa Park
Members only shopping will be from 9 to 10,
Open to the public 10:00am to 4:00pm

Strange and exotic plants from the far corners of the world gathered together for your viewing amazement!!

Sale of choice specimen plants for the novice and collector as well as handmade stoneware planters and pots!!

For additional information visit: sdcss.net

- Fertilize *Platyceriums* (staghorns) with high nitrogen fertilizer. They are starting to grow. Do not use slow release pellets.
- Remove and remount *Platycerium* pups.
- Sow spores.

Fruit Trees and Vines

Vincent Lazaneo, Urban Horticulture Advisor, UC Cooperative Extension

- Finish pruning dormant deciduous trees and vines before leaf buds start to grow.
- Prune evergreens just before or when new growth begins.
- Spray dormant deciduous trees and vines with horticultural oil before buds begin to open to control overwintering insect pests.
- Spray dormant peach and nectarine trees with a fungicide such as lime sulfur (calcium polysulfide) before buds begin to open to control peach leaf curl.
- Learn more about pest management at *www.ipm.ucdavis.edu*.
- Plant dormant bare root trees and vines. Paint the trunks with whitewash to protect the bark from sunburn injury (use equal parts water and white interior flat latex paint).
- Provide frost protection for young citrus and other subtropical fruit trees.
- Feed fruit trees with a nitrogen fertilizer when new growth begins.
- Learn more about backyard orchards at http://fruitsandnuts.ucdavis.edu.

Herbs

John Noble, Coastal Sage Gardening

- Make a cup of mint tea fresh from the garden. If you don't have any in the garden, plant some.
- Fertilize your herb garden. Use compost, earthworm castings, kelp, manure and peat moss. Add gypsum if you have a clay soil.
- Plant aloe, parsley, dill, borage, calendula, rosemary and sage. Also plant native herbs such as white sage, black sage, California poppy and yerba santa.
- Prune and lace your deciduous herbal shrubs and trees. These include roses, chaste tree, gingko, lemon verbena and elderberry.

Irises

Leon Vogel, San Diego/Imperial Counties Iris Society

- Fertilize again for the spring burst of blooms. Use a low nitrogen mix
- Check for aphids that hide all winter at the base of leaves. It is best to use a systemic insect spray. Spray for diseases with a spray such as Daconil – gets them all.
- Discard all dead leaves and weeds. Put them in your dumpster, not the compost pile.
- Check to see if all labels are by the proper clumps. Use weather-proof marking pens on labels.
- Keep everything watered if winter is dry.
- Foliar feed for bigger and brighter colored blooms.

Baja Fairy Duster
Calliandra californica

Native Plants

John Noble, Coastal Sage Gardening

- Plant wildflower seeds, like California bluebells, Chinese houses, farewell-to-spring, mountain garland, goldfields and California poppy
- Plant your choice of California native plants. Dig a hole and fill with water several times, amend soil slightly and plant the root ball so that it is an inch or two higher than the existing soil level. Cover with soil to create a little mound. Water again with a spray.
- Hose down your native garden once a week until the rainy season kicks in.

Orchids

Christopher Croom, San Diego County Orchid Society

- Give your deciduous and cool-growing dendrobiums and nobile hybrids a dry winter rest through January.
- Look for spikes on winter-blooming cattleyas (*C.labiata*, etc.) in January.
- Train developing spikes on phalaenopsis, especially those left outside until nighttime temperatures drop to 55 degrees F. to initiate reblooming.
- Watch for rotting plants and rotting mixes. Repot plants when any signs of rot occur and dust any affected areas of the plant with sulfur.
- Increase water if plants show signs of faster growth in February.
- Protect outdoor plants from nighttime moisture. Water before noon.

Pelargoniums

Jim Zemcik, San Diego Geranium Society

- Water on a regular schedule. Allow excess water to drain away. Keep foliage as dry as possible. Keep potted plants out of prolonged rain.
- Continue feeding with a good commercial fertilizer. Use at one-third to one-half of the label's recommended strength. Apply at two-week intervals.
- Continue a pest control and disease prevention program.
- Top pinch any plants that were not previously cut back. When the stems start to leaf out, cut them back to one-half the stem length.

- Make cuttings from the prunings. Try rooting in straight perlite. Shelter the cuttings from extreme weather; place them in a warm location to produce roots more rapidly.
- Protect plants from freezing.
- Rotate plants to keep them well shaped.

Plumerias

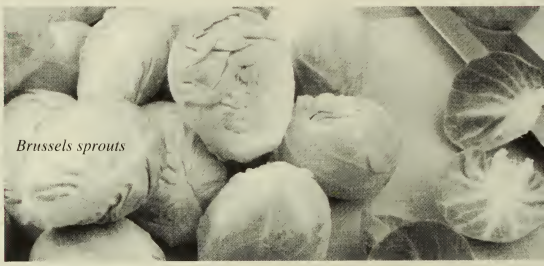
Frank Zotter, Southern California Plumeria Society

- Protect plumerias from any frost; this is important because it only takes one night to ruin a plant. In a frost prone area, move container plants inside or to a garage.
- Move plants next to a building or under the patio to protect from excess rain.
- Top-off plants with as much mulch as possible to protect from cold and rain.
- Do not fertilize and sparingly water those plants that still have leaves if drought conditions continue. Leaves that remain will usually drop off in the spring when new growth begins.
- Clean the areas around plants to prevent disease.
- Do not remove the inflorescences and seed pods. The inflorescence will usually bloom prior to new leaf growth.
- If seed pods are large enough and have split from one to two—cover each one with a netting material. This will prevent wind dispersal of the seeds when a pod ripens.

Roses

Roger English, San Diego Rose Society

- Prune hybrid teas and climbers anytime from mid-January to Valentine's Day. Prune floribundas, shrubs, miniatures and minifloras from the beginning to the end of January.
- Improve your pruning skills the first Saturday of January at 9:30 a.m. at the Inez Grant Parker Memorial Roses Garden on Park Avenue in Balboa Park. American Rose Society Consulting Rosarians will first demonstrate the best technique. Attendees then prune a rose bush with guidance as needed. Bring your gloves and pruners.
- After pruning, lay down mulch to prevent weeds and enrich your soil.
- Begin feeding established roses as soon as there is six inches of new growth.
- Begin measures to prevent powdery mildew as soon as feeding is started.
- Remove aphids with a strong stream of water. A water conserving technique is to flick the end of the stem rapidly with all five fingers until almost all the aphids have been flicked off. This is my favorite method. Repeat two or three times a week.
- Continue to plant new bare-root roses in early January.
- Attend the SDRS Rose Care Seminar on Saturday, Jan. 23, in Room 101, Casa del Prado, to learn how to grow beautiful roses. Details are at *www.sdrosesociety.org*.
- In the absence of adequate rainfall water deeply once a week.



Brussels sprouts

Vegetables

Vincent Lazaneo, Urban Horticulture Advisor, UC Cooperative Extension

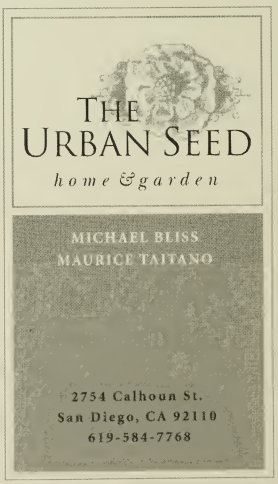
- Continue planting cool-season vegetables where frost seldom occurs. Cool-season vegetables include beets, broccoli, Brussels sprouts, cabbage, carrots, cauliflower, endive, kale, kohlrabi, lettuce, peas, potatoes (white), radishes, rutabagas and turnips.
- Use floating row cover fabric on seeded transplanted crops to accelerate their growth.
- Plant dormant crowns of artichoke, asparagus and rhubarb.
- Plant seeds of medium day-length onions such as White Sweet Spanish, Stockton Yellow Globe and Italian Red (short storage life) during February for bulbs in late summer.
- Order seeds of warm season vegetables for planting in the spring.
- Remove and compost old tomato vines and other summer crops to control diseases and pests.

MOVING?

Please let us know.

Help us keep membership costs down by informing us of your new address promptly. Fax it to us at 619-232-5762 or mail it to: SDFA, 1650 El Prado #105, San Diego, CA 92101-1684.

Changes of address can also be submitted by email to *membership@sdfloral.org*.



Why not a Rose Bush?

Learn from Rosarians How Easy Rose Care Can Be

By Gary Bulman

Last fall, I was hunting for a gem of a rose at Regan Rose Nursery in Freemont when I spotted a woman loading several flats of mums, snapdragons and pansies on to a large cart. I asked her if she had looked over the sale roses that lined the landscape. Her response was that roses were difficult to grow and work intensive, so she didn't want to deal with them.

As a Consulting Rosarian and Master Gardener, I am all too familiar with this response.

As I surveyed the woman's plants, I wondered how many hours would be required to prepare beds and plant the flats of annuals she had selected. Of course this hard work would be repeated as these cool season annuals reached the end of their life cycle and warm season plants were gathered to replace them.

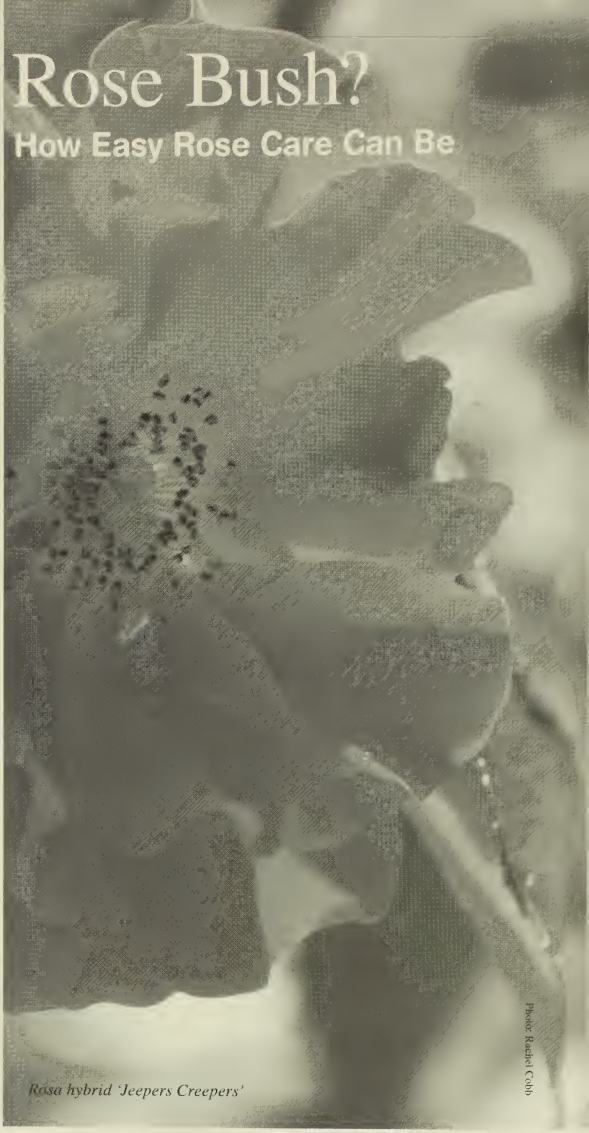
I enjoy these types of plants but am convinced that the rose – America's flower – has been given a bad reputation concerning the time needed to grow and maintain a few bushes. With a little knowledge concerning rose care, a bush can grow and flower for years, adding great color to a yard and providing cut flowers for the home.

San Diego is the very best rose growing climate in the United States. Here roses grow year round, producing up to five glorious cycles of bloom. They require no winter protection here. Our problem is only how to get them to rest prior to January pruning. Roses do not require an over abundance of water; feeding them periodically during the growing season is adequate.

The San Diego Rose Society meets the 3rd Monday of each month and also spreads rose care information through monthly speakers and its newsletter. In addition, consulting rosarians are available on-line at our web site, *www.sdrosesociety.org*, to answer specific questions and offer advice to correct growing problems. The rose society recommends varieties of roses that grow best in our climate and provides on pruning and care for roses.

December and January are the best months for selecting and planting new rose bushes and for the pruning and preparation of established roses for the spring bloom. Pruning seems to present the most formidable task for gardeners. It is difficult to kill a rose bush with a poor pruning job, but on the other hand, a good pruning allows your bush to grow correctly and enhances the production of blooms. A free pruning demonstration and hands-on instruction will be provided Jan. 2 in the Inez Grant Parker Memorial Rose Garden in Balboa Park beginning at 9:30 a.m. Bring long gloves and pruning shears and be prepared to gain the knowledge and skill that will enable you to prune your roses with confidence.

For those interested in acquiring additional skills in planting and general rose care, the SDRS will present a Rose Care Seminar in Room 101 in Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, on Jan 23. The cost is $25. The featured speaker is Master Consulting Rosarian Robert B. Martin, who lives in Escondido and has been growing roses for more than 35 years. He was the editor of the *Rose Exhibitors' Forum* for 12 years and now is the editor of *Horizon Roses*. He also is the author of the book *Showing Good Roses* and more than 500 published articles on roses. Additional speakers will address organic rose care, correct selection and planting of roses and the ever present pruning problems.



Rosa hybrid 'Jeepers Creepers'

Photo: Rachel Cobb

For additional information on the rose pruning demo or the seminar, contact me by calling (760) 739-8342) or emailing *gossbulman@cox.net*. To register for the seminar, use the downloadable form on our web site, *www.sdrosesociety.org*.

—Gary Bulman is coordinator of Consulting Rosarians for the San Diego Rose Society. He organizes the annual seminar and rose pruning demonstration.

Garden Conversations: Dick Streeper

A Rose Expert Shares the Roots of His Passion and the City's World-Famous Rose Garden

By Sarah Smith

Since joining the San Diego Rose Society 40 years ago, Dick Streeper has served as president in addition to initiating and overseeing the development of Inez Grant Parker Memorial Rose Garden, San Diego's first municipal rose garden. Dick has also written a regular column for the *Union-Tribune* since 1981 to give gardeners tips and techniques regarding rose care in San Diego. Late last year, he was honored with an "Inspiration Award" by the Friends of Balboa Park. Here, Dick discusses how he became involved with roses, as well as pointers for those interested in growing roses of their own.

California Garden: I read some of the articles you wrote for the *Union-Tribune* and *California Garden*, and it is clear that you are both knowledgeable and passionate about roses. What got you interested in roses to begin with?

Dick Streeper: It just sort of grew on me I guess. My family had nice gardens, so as a young person I was exposed to that. By my last two years of law school in Oregon, I was interested in roses. I had bought a book on rose horticulture and breeding and I started collecting rose seeds with the intent of germinating them. So I was interested in roses and rose breeding, actually. When we bought a home in El Cajon, we became interested in horticulture. The first spring bloom here we went to a San Diego Rose Society rose show in Balboa Park, and I was amazed to see all of the blooms there because I had virtually none at that point. The second year we went to the rose show and again I didn't have anything to exhibit, but I was getting smarter. The third year, we entered roses and won the best rose in the novice section, and it gave us a lot of notice in the rose society. With that we were launched. The next year I was elected vice president program chairman.

CG: Why did you want a public rose garden in San Diego?

DS: We had a person in the Rose Society who had retired from Pasadena to San Diego, and his common statement was, "San Diego is the best place to grow roses." It led me to ask, "If this is the best place in the world to grow roses, then why don't we have a public rose garden in the city?" No one had an answer for that. I proposed we launch an effort for a municipal rose garden at my first board meeting, and everyone told me that it had been tried and it wouldn't work. January of the following year, I became the Rose Society president, and at the first meeting the membership adopted a resolution supporting the establishment of a municipal rose garden.

CG: What were some struggles you faced in establishing the municipal rose garden?

DS: The city was very much in favor of it, but we had the same problems we have now: there is no money. A friend of mine, the chairman of the Park and Recreation Board at that time, told me the Parker Foundation was interested in paying for the replanting of the palm trees on 6th Avenue, and he could help redirect that to roses. We had a meeting and they agreed to supply matching funds. It took us another four years because at that point we didn't have a master plan. There was a lot of discussion and inaction in the Park Department. Also, the eastern portion of the rose garden was built mostly on landfill from the high rise buildings from downtown San Diego, which had to settle for a couple of years before anything could be planted. The Rose Society and rose industry, under my direction, have since donated and supplied virtually all of the roses. There is also a rose garden trust under the San Diego Rose Society and they have collected funds and donated a considerable amount of money.

CG: How many different types of roses are in the garden?

DS: We now have about 1,700 plants in the garden and 160 varieties of roses.

CG: What is the Rose Garden Corps? How can someone become involved?

DS: I have a volunteer group called the Rose Garden Corps which supplies most of the horticultural labor in the garden, or the daily upkeep and planting. I put a notice out in January of each year inviting volunteers to come in. What I ask is that people spend at least a morning two times a month, but many come in more often. Just about two hours or so, planting roses and pruning. The Corps is the backbone because they are experienced and know how to care for roses.

CG: What would you say to someone who thinks that growing roses is too difficult?

DS: Roses are very drought tolerant, and I invite a general consideration that roses have been in existence for several thousand years. It wasn't until the 20th century that garden irrigation really came into existence. ... Also, we have vastly improved the performance of roses through good breeding. It is possible, in San Diego and most places, to grow roses with a minimum amount of water.

CG: Are you interested or concerned about water conservation in your own garden?

DS: I am very much interested and have a lot of information. If you want to learn a lot, go to the internet and search for "growing roses in Australia," and you will find at least 5,000 hits on a search. They have had difficulties supplying adequate water for domestic gardens, so you can find a huge amount of material about gardening in an arid environment, which is really what we have here. You can also go to the San Diego Rose Society website (*www.sdrosesociety.org*) and you'll find my calendar of care, which will tell you how to use water during the year.

CG: What is the best way to learn about growing roses?

DS: The best thing to do is join a local rose society because there you can find people who are very interested in roses. They're a great source of information, and the cost is nominal.

– *Sarah Smith is* California Garden's *intern*.

Romantic Red Roses

Grow your own bouquets to make every day Valentine's Day

By Dwyn Daniels Robbie

Typically one thinks of champagne, chocolate and a dozen red florist roses as tried and true gifts for lovers on Valentine's Day. This year, why not break with tradition and give a gift that will have your sweetheart thinking about you and smiling for years to come!

A potted live red rose bush will provide pleasure and memories of this Valentine's Day well into the future. While the plant that you purchase may not have flowers in bloom - it's the dormant time of year for roses - your lover will treasure your ingenuity. Many hybridizers include an identification label with a photo of the rose. If this is not available download one from the internet and attach it to your plant along with a big red bow.

The list below is comprised of some of my favorite red roses. All grow well in San Diego County and are readily available at local nurseries.

Firefighter • Hybrid tea

Red on the blue-purple side of the color wheel. Great repeat bloom every 6-7 weeks with the most fabulous Damask fragrance, very strong and long-lasting. In my garden, this rose grows large - 4-5 feet tall and 3-4 feet wide. The stems are strong and perfecat for cutting. This rose has won many prizes as "Most Fragrant Rose" at the San Diego County Fair as well as nationally. Doesn't do well in extreme heat.

Black Magic • Hybrid tea

Dark velvety red almost black-red flowers. Great repeat flowering every 6-7 weeks. Fairly disease resistant. This is a former florist rose so the blooms tend to be on the smallish side for a hybrid tea when it comes to exhibition. Its fragrance is a sophisticated combination of tea, fruit and hints of Damask, but it is not a knock-out scent such as you will find with 'Firefighter.'

Valentine's Day • Climbing Mini-Flora

A perfect climbing red mini-flora, a new category of roses that falls between miniature and full-size roses. Puts off lovely sprays of medium colored red roses. It grows very large in my garden. Disease resistant but a slower repeat bloom after the first spring flush. No fragrance

Black Baccara • Hybrid tea

Another florist rose from the French rose breeder Meilland. Flowers are as close to black as you will see in the rose garden. No fragrance. In my garden, my one-year-old rose has grown to 5 feet and continues to delight me with perfect blooms.

Continued on page 28

Favorite Tool: Long-Reach Pruner

Anyone who comes to visit and mentions our rose garden, even in passing, is immediately force-marched into the garden and told about our entire collection. Then we'll stop at the back shed for an account of our most revered garden tool, telescoping long-reach pruners.

Sharon Van Enoo, head of the volunteer rose group at the Huntington Botanical Gardens, touted the pruner years ago in her monthly newsletter. We ordered one and agreed to pick it up at the first Great Rosarians of the World award presentation at the Huntington in January 2001. The winner was the distinguished English rosarian Peter Beales.

When my wife, Thea Gurns, and I saw Sharon at the event, she told us she might not be able to give us our pruners. "Peter Beales may want them," she explained.

Of course, we said that would be okay. Beales is renowned – owner of a well-known rose nursery in England, a noted rose hybridizer and celebrated author of rose books. But I admit as I listened to his acceptance speech, I was saying to myself, "Please don't take the pruners. Please."

After the talk Sharon told us Beales had tried our pruners in the Huntington's rose garden and really liked them. My heart sank. But, she added, Beales was not going to take the pruners back to England with him because the box was too awkward to bring on the plane. He would order one and have it shipped. Yippee!

When I tried the pruners at home, I loved them. The pole is aluminum and incredibly light. It telescopes to 10 feet. The blades are sharp. The whole device is durable and still works like a charm today. I also realize I have more than a great tool; these pruners had been used by one of the world's great rosarians. Today the pruners are my most revered garden tool.

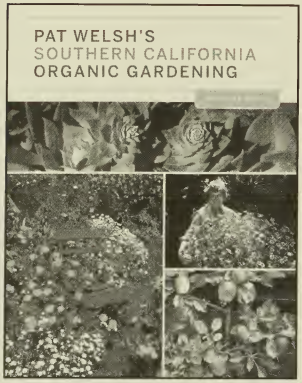
Many models of these pruners are manufactured by ARS Corporation (*www.ars-edge.co.jp/world*) and are available at numerous retail outlets. To purchase online, put the part number into a search engine. A vender will appear. Price is about $125.

—John Blocker

Organic Gardening

Fertilizing Roses the Organic Way

By Pat Welsh



EDITOR'S NOTE:

With this issue, *California Garden* welcomes Pat Welsh, one of San Diego's best-known and most admired garden communicators, to its pages. For more than three decades, Welsh has inspired and delighted area gardeners as a garden editor, columnist, award-winning TV host, author and speaker. Among her books is the indispensable month-by-month Southern California gardening guide that she recently revised with an emphasis on organic, drought-tolerant, Earth-friendly gardening. This year, beginning below, she is sharing with us excerpts from *Pat Welsh's Southern California Organic Gardening* just published by Chronicle Books. Look for the book in area and online book stores. — *Mary James*

Excerpted from "January Rose Care" in Chapter One of *Pat Welsh's Southern California Organic Gardening, Month by Month*; Published by Chronicle Books; Copyright 2009.

January is an important month for rose care: This is the time to choose and plant bare-root roses, prune and fertilize the ones you already have, and spray with dormant oil if desired. (Some organic gardeners no longer use dormant spray.)

Why Organic Gardeners Feed Roses Now.

Roses are gluttons for nutrients. They need nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium, plus iron, magnesium, sulfur and other minerals in smaller quantities. Gardeners who use synthetic rose fertilizers should never feed roses in January because all synthetic rose fertilizers contain strong forms of nitrogen that burn immature leaves. Organic rose foods are different. Though some generic fertilizers can burn—blood meal is a good example—most organic fertilizers need time to take effect. Thus, they need to be applied early in the season.

Fertilize with organic fertilizers as soon as you finish pruning, but choose a day when the ground is damp, not bone dry. Don't dig fertilizers into the ground; digging around roses can harm the delicate feeder roots that are close to the surface. However, organic fertilizers need to make actual contact with the soil, so it's okay to scratch them lightly into the ground with a long-handled cultivator. (I personally don't do this, but many gardeners do.)

Follow up by watering deeply and then cover the ground under each rose with a layer of organic mulch 2 to 3 inches thick. Use homemade compost, bagged or trucked organic soil amendment, or aged manure. (Bark pellets have no place in the organic garden; they subtract nitrogen from the soil in order to rot. Shredded bark is good for mulching paths and shrubberies, but is not the best choice for mulching roses.)

Choose from Three Ways to Fertilize.

Throughout the monthly chapters, you'll find three ways of fertilizing roses from which you can choose. The first and easiest system is to purchase a ready-made organic rose food and immediately after pruning apply the amount per feeding recommended on the package. The second system for feeding roses is what I call the Rose-Pro Method. Based largely on the work of San Diego organic rosarian Jack Shoultz, it's outlined in a chart at the end of this book. (*Editor's note: Due space considerations, we regret are unable to include the complete chart in this excerpt; January's application is described below.)* The Rose-Pro Method uses a variety of organic commercial and generic products. It gives you a routine to follow, but some of the products called for may be expensive.

A third system for fertilizing roses is to create your own homemade combinations of generic products. You can use the Rose-Pro Method as a general guide but substitute generic products of your own choosing. This can save money but requires more thought. (For help, refer to the charts on generic fertilizers and soil amendments. The monthly chapters also mention many options as we progress through the year. (*Editor's note: Due space considerations, we cannot include these charts. Interested readers can consult this book at their local library.*)

Using the Rose-Pro Method.

If you decide to fertilize your roses according to the Rose-Pro Method, wait until you've finished pruning all plants and

continued

cleaned up the soil under each rose. Then immediately after pruning, apply the following to the ground in the watering basin surrounding each rose: 2 tablespoons of John and Bob's Soil Optimizer, 2 cups Dr. Earth Organic 3 Rose & Flower Fertilizer (5-7-2) or another balanced organic rose fertilizer of your choice, and 2 cups Biosol Mix (7-2-3). (John and Bob's Soil Optimizer contains iron, calcium, and humic acid. Dr. Earth contains organic sources of nitrogen, potassium, and phosphorus plus soil microbes and mycorrhizae to release natural nutrients in soil. Biosol Mix is an organic dry fertilizer that provides slow-release nitrogen. It is made from fermented soybean meal, cottonseed meal, and sulfate of potassium mixed with the mineral bentonite. Humic acid is discussed and explained below.)

Using Free and Generic Fertilizers.

If your choice is generics, first consider free items. The best free soil amendment is your own homemade compost; it teems with microorganisms, and you can find many free ingredients to heat up the pile and increase its nutrient value. Most managers of health food stores and juice bars, for example, would rather save you a box of carrot, apple, and green vegetable fiber than throw it out. When you pick up your latte, bring home a bag of used coffee grounds for mulching acid-loving camellias, azaleas, and blue hydrangeas as well as roses to counteract our alkaline water. Supermarkets will save lettuce leaves and vegetable trimmings for composters.

Among the most valuable and quick-acting free nitrogen sources are all the outdated fish and fresh fish trimmings tossed out daily by supermarkets, fish markets, and restaurants, which can be recycled straight into the earth. Just one dead fish placed under a rose at planting time can provide enough nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium for a year. It's the outdated, usually wasted stuff you want to get, not good fish. (I forgot to mention that in a lecture years ago, and one woman went out and bought swordfish steaks.)

Human hair is another nitrogen source that might sound a bit off-putting, but it's free for the asking at hairdressers and has been used for centuries as a slow-release nitrogen fertilizer. Similar in composition to gelatine (20-0-0), hair is mainly keratin. It decomposes quickly in moist soil and moist compost piles but, as Egyptian mummies demonstrate, slowly or never in dry soil. Some gardeners cut hair into short pieces and till it into garden soil prior to planting or bury it beside existing plants, such as roses. I know of a French gardener who buries a big handful of hair in the bottom of each planting hole in spring before planting tomatoes. Other than manure, that's the only fertilizer he uses.

And don't ever throw out banana peels. Lay them under the mulch to provide calcium, magnesium, sulfur, potassium, phosphate, and silica. A word of warning, though: unless deeply buried, banana peels can attract raccoons and roof rats. Work a crowbar back and forth to make deep holes on the edge of the watering basins without damaging rose roots, then stuff the banana peels down the holes and fill them with earth. Or chop and ferment the peels for a week in a jar of water and pour the solution over rose roots; this won't attract pests.

Wood ashes from your fireplace are a potassium source, and charcoal absorbs nutrients and then doles them out slowly. Unfortunately, ash is highly alkaline, but it can be used in small quantities on fast-draining soils. (Charcoal and ash from barbecues should never be used; these can kill plants.)

Ada Perry's Magic Formula.

Many years ago, the respected San Diego newspaper columnist (and *California Garden* contributor) Ada Perry invented a formula for feeding roses. Her mix contained generic fertilizers that can be bought in bulk. Rose lovers have used this homemade mix for many years. The original recipe calls for 1 cup gypsum, 1 cup Blood and Bone (no longer available), 1/2 cup soil sulfur, 2 tablespoons Iron Tonic (no longer available), and 1 tablespoon Epsom salts. It gave great results, especially if you added banana peels for potassium, needed by many Southern California soils. (An updated version of Ada Perry's Mix in the accompanying box contains potassium as well as products available today.) Gardeners using generics could apply this formula twice a year, in January and June, and then feed with various forms of organic nitrogen in all other months through September.

Apply Humic Acid.

Humic acid is the best-kept secret of the gardening world, and a wonder-working organic fertilizer to apply to soil any time for remarkable results later on. It contains micronutrients, it frees up the nutrients in soil, promotes active roots, and improves overall plant health. Humic acid is a concentrated, dark-brown substance that technically could be extracted from compost or peat moss, but is usually derived from leonardite, a soft brown coal found in surface deposits in North Dakota, Utah, China, Russia, and many other places. Leonardite is made up of ancient terrestrial plant matter (with perhaps a few decomposed dinosaurs mixed in) and is composed of at least 85 percent humic acid. Though leonardite was discovered in 1919, the beneficial effects of humic acid on plants were discovered only in the 1960s, and it was only during the past 15 years that products containing it have become readily available to gardeners and farmers.

Today you can purchase humic acid in dry or liquid form, either pure and unadulterated or combined with other ingredients. When transplanting or planting, you might as well toss out the vitamin B1, long ago proven to be absolutely worthless, and use diluted humic acid instead. It's the best ever planting fluid to stimulate roots.

Apply Earthworm Castings.

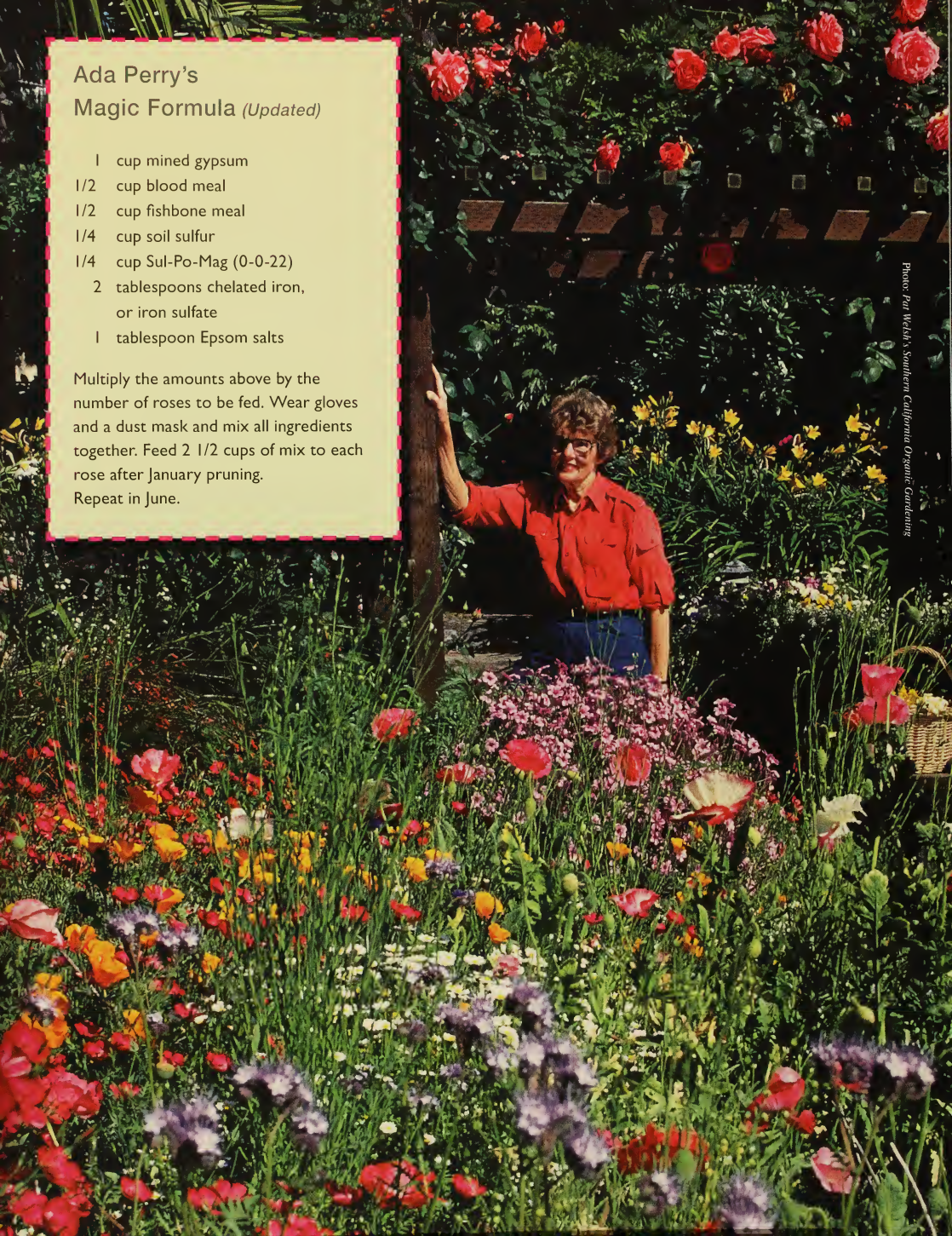
A quart or two of earthworm castings per rose or earthworm-castings tea, applied before the end of January, adds nutrients and microorganisms as well as repells insect pests, including aphids and rose slugs. In interior zones earthworm castings may dry out and harden like a cake in warm weather. If this happens, scratch or wash them into the ground, mix them with compost, or mix them with water and pour them over plant roots.

Fertilizing with generics takes more thought and work, but often saves money. It also allows you to skip around and try various nutrients that benefit roses. Keep a notebook so you remember what you did and the results from year to year.

Ada Perry's Magic Formula *(Updated)*

1	cup mined gypsum
1/2	cup blood meal
1/2	cup fishbone meal
1/4	cup soil sulfur
1/4	cup Sul-Po-Mag (0-0-22)
2	tablespoons chelated iron, or iron sulfate
1	tablespoon Epsom salts

Multiply the amounts above by the number of roses to be fed. Wear gloves and a dust mask and mix all ingredients together. Feed 2 1/2 cups of mix to each rose after January pruning.
Repeat in June.



Photos: *Pat Welsh's Southern California Organic Gardening*

Romantic Red Roses continued from page 24

I did get some mildew on this rose in the spring but by spraying daily with water, it disappeared and has yet to return. Habit is a little rangy but it may be due to its youth.

The Dark Lady • David Austin shrub

Multi-petaled (approximately 140) rose with an unusual form. Very rich, dark crimson with a wide range of colors presenting themselves in the petals (crimson, magenta, dark purple). May have a rugosa in its bloodline which may explain why the form is so different from other Austin roses. Medium Damask fragrance. The repeat is rather slow - about 8 weeks. Fairly impervious to disease in my garden. Grows in a rounded shape to about 4 feet tall.

Fourth of July • Climber

Red and white low-petaled climber. When people visit my garden, this rose always seems to catch their attention. Grows very large; repeats well (6 weeks). Low-petaled (8-10) with great yellow stamens. The bees love to roll around in the center of this rose. While its hybridizer Tom Carruth says it has a slight apple fragrance, I have yet to smell this. All-America Rose Selection (AARS) winner.

Other red roses that are nice are **'Linda Campbell'** (hybrid rugosa) and **'Altissimo,'** a low-petaled climbing rose.

This year I am ordering a David Austin Rose which has had all England a-buzz for three years. It is called **'Munstead Wood.'** I only know what I have read about this red-tending-to-purple rose and I am so excited that it is being offered in the USA at last.

I recently attended a lecture by Clair Martin, rose curator at the Huntington Botanical Gardens who had just returned from David Austin's garden in England. He had a picture of 'Munstead Wood' and confirmed that it is a superior rose with a "died and gone to heaven" fragrance.

– Dwyn Daniels Robbie has grown roses for more than 25 years. She currently has 200 specimens in her Del Mar Garden. She is a founding member of the Del Mar Rose Society and an American Rose Society (ARS) Consulting Rosarian. She was awarded the Bronze Honor Medal from the ARS in 2004. She is a sought-after speaker, an award-winning rose exhibitor and an organic rose gardener.

Photos: Gene Sisse
© 2008 Courtesy of Weeks Roses

Photos: Courtesy David Austin

SDFA Calendar

A listing of the best gardening-related activities in the county for November and December 2010

January Events

JANUARY 4

PALOMAR DISTRICT'S FLORAL DESIGN FORUM
Pauline Sechi, California Garden Clubs 2008-2009 Creative Flower Arranger of the Year, will present "Designs In A Contemporary Manner."
When: 12:30 p.m.
Where: Carlsbad Woman's Club, 3320 Monroe St., Carlsbad

JANUARY 5

SAN DIEGO COUNTY ORCHID SOCIETY MEETING
When: 7:30 p.m.
Where: Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego
More information: *www.sdorchids.com*

JANUARY 6

SOUTHWESTERN JUDGES COUNCIL MEETING
When: 10:30 a.m.
Where: Community Room, North County Fair, Escondido
More information: 760-727-7614

THE SAN DIEGO HERB CLUB MEETING
When: 7:00 p.m.
Where: Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego
More information: *www.thesandiegoherbclub.com*

PALOMAR ORCHID SOCIETY MEETING
When: 7:00 p.m.
Where: Carlsbad Woman's Club, 3320 Monroe St., Carlsbad
More information: *www.palomarorchid.org*

JANUARY 8

CARLSBAD GARDEN CLUB MEETING
Ben Raines from Dig Corporation will present "Innovations in Irrigation Systems."
When: 1:00 p.m.
Where: Carlsbad City Library, 1775 Dove Lane, Carlsbad
More information: *www.carlsbadgardenclub.com*

VISTA GARDEN CLUB
Flower show judge Sonja Longley will share her expertise in floral design.
When: 12:00 p.m.
Where: Vista Senior Center, 1400 Vale Terrance Dr., Vista
More information: *www.vistagardenclub.org*

JANUARY 9

SAN DIEGO BROMELIAD SOCIETY
When: 10:00 a.m.
Where: Room 104, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego
More information: *http://bsi.org/webpages/san_diego.html*

JANUARY 10

SAN DIEGO BONSAI CLUB, INC.
When: 10:30 a.m.
Where: Room 101 Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego
More information: *www.sandiegobonsaiclub.com*

SAN DIEGO IRIS SOCIETY MEETING
When: 1:00 p.m.
Where: Lakeside Historical Society Building, 9906 Maine Avenue, Lakeside
More information: *http://sites.google.com/site/sandiegoirissociety*

JANUARY 11

SAN DIEGO HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY
Author Amy Stewart will discuss her book "Wicked Plants: The Deliciously Dark Side of the Plant Kingdom."
When: 6:30 p.m.
Where: Surfside Race Place, Del Mar Fairgrounds, Del Mar
More information: *www.sdhortsoc.org*

JANUARY 12

BROMELIAD STUDY GROUP OF BALBOA PARK MEETING
When: 7:00 p.m.
Where: Room 104, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego
More information: 619-479-5500, *www.3.adnc.com/~lynnd/brominfo.html*

DOS VALLES GARDEN CLUB MEETING
When: 12:00 Noon
Where: St. Stephen Catholic Church, 31020 Cole Grade Road, Valley Center
More information: *www.dosvallesgardenclub.org*

SAN DIEGO GERANIUM SOCIETY MEETING
Learn tips for preparing display plants for shows.
When: 7:00 p.m.–9:00 p.m.
Where: Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego
More information: 858-472-0540, *www.sdgeranium.org*

JANUARY 13

BONITA VALLEY GARDEN CLUB MEETING
When: 9:30 a.m. Hospitality; 10:00 a.m. Meeting
Where: Bonita Library Community Room, 4375 Bonita Road, Bonita
More information: Darlene Montgomery, 619-267-1585, *dmontg@live.com*

POINT LOMA GARDEN CLUB MEETING
Kathleen Shawl Parkes of Monrovia will discuss exciting water-thrifty plants.
When: 10:00 a.m.
Where: Portuguese Hall, 2818 Avenida de Portugal, San Diego
More information: *www.plgc.org*

POWAY VALLEY GARDEN CLUB MEETING
A container plant workshop will be presented.
When: 9:00 a.m.
Where: Lake Poway Pavilion, Poway
More information: *www.powayvalleygardenclub.org*

RAMONA GARDEN CLUB MEETING
Join us to hear landscaper Christine Holmquist.
When: 12:00 Noon
Where: Ramona Women's Club, 524 Main Street, Ramona
More information: *www.ramonagardenclub.com*

SAN DIEGO EPIPHYLLUM SOCIETY MEETING
When: 7:30 p.m.
Where: Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego
More information: *www.epiphyllum.com*

JANUARY 15

CALIFORNIA RARE FRUIT GROWERS, NORTH COUNTY CHAPTER MEETING
When: 7:00 p.m.
Where: MiraCosta College Horticulture Bldg., Room 7003, Oceanside
More information: *www.crfg.org/local.html*

JANUARY 16

MIRACOSTA HORTICULTURE CLUB OF OCEANSIDE
Author Aenne Carver will present her new book "The Thrifty Gardener."
When: 12:45 p.m.
Where: Aztlan Room, 2nd floor, Student Union Bldg., MiraCosta College.
More information: *www.gardencentral.org/californiagc/miracosta*

JANUARY 19

LA JOLLA GARDEN CLUB MEETING
When: 1:30 p.m.
Where: La Jolla Lutheran Church, 7111 La Jolla Blvd., La Jolla
More information: Fran Sheinbein, 858-488-5618

RANCHO SAN DIEGO GARDEN CLUB MEETING
When: 10:00 a.m.
Where: 1077 Vista Madera, El Cajon
Contact: Connie Beck, 619-749-4059

CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY, SAN DIEGO CHAPTER MEETING
When: 7:30 p.m.
Where: Room 101 or 104, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego
More information: 760-434-5033, *www.cnpssd.org*

JANUARY 20

SAN DIEGO CAMELLIA SOCIETY
Brad King discusses "Camellia Seedlings and Hybridization."
When: 7:00 p.m. social; 7:30 business meeting and speaker
Where: Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego
More information: 760-942-1919

SAN DIEGO COUNTY CYMBIDIUM SOCIETY MEETING
When: 7:00 p.m.
Where: Carlsbad Woman's Club, 3320 Monroe St., Carlsbad
More information: 858-748-8355

JANUARY 21

BERNARDO GARDENERS CLUB MEETING
Tom Jesch, owner of Daylily Hill Nursery & Design, will design with succulents.
When: 1:00 p.m.
Where: R. B. Swim & Tennis Club, 16955 Bernardo Oaks Dr., Rancho Bernardo
More information: *www.bernardogardeners.org*

CHULA VISTA GARDEN CLUB MEETING
When: 11:45 a.m.
Where: Norman Park Senior Center, 270 F St., Chula Vista
More information: Marilyn Saleny, 619-656-8669

SAN DIEGO FERN SOCIETY MEETING
When: 7:30 p.m.
Where: Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego
More information: *www.sdfern.com*

JANUARY 23

PALOMAR CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY MEETING
When: 12:00 Noon
Where: Joslyn Senior Center, 724 N. Broadway, Escondido
More information: 760-741-7553

JANUARY 25

BRIDGE AND BAY GARDEN CLUB MEETING
Floral designs by local artists.
When: 9:45 a.m.
Where: The Winn Room, Coronado Public Library, 640 Orange Ave., Coronado
More information: *www.bridgeandbaygardenclub.org*

CARLSBAD AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY MEETING
When: 10:30 a.m.
Where: Vista Library, 700 Eucalyptus Ave., Vista
More information: 760-295-0484

LAKE HODGES NATIVE PLANT CLUB MEETING
Member Terry Badger will present "Hiking the Coast to Crest Trail."
When: 2:00 p.m.
Where: Rancho Bernardo Library, 17110 Bernardo Center Dr., Rancho Bernardo
More information: *www.lhnpc.org*

SAN DIEGO ROSE SOCIETY MONTHLY MEETING
Award winning hybridizer Keith Zary of Jackson & Perkins will discuss his work.
When: 7:30 p.m.
Where: Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego
More information: *www.sdrosesociety.org*

JANUARY 26

BONITA ORGANIC GARDEN CLUB
When: 6:30 p.m.
Where: Bonita Library Community Room, 4375 Bonita Rd., Bonita
More information: 619-741-8448

FALLBROOK GARDEN CLUB MEETING
Pat Welsh will speak about "Growing Summer Vegetables Organically."
When: 1:00 p.m.
Where: Fallbrook Community Center, 341 Heald Lane, Fallbrook
More information: *www.fallbrookgardenclub.org*

SAN CARLOS GARDEN CLUB MEETING
When: 9:30 a.m.
Where: St. Dunstan's, 6556 Park Ridge Rd., San Carlos
More information: 619-448-3613

JANUARY 27

CALIFORNIA RARE FRUIT GROWERS, SAN DIEGO CHAPTER MEETING
When 7:00 p.m.
Where: Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego
More information: *www.crfgsandiego.org*

IKEBANA INTERNATIONAL CHAPTER 119 MEETING
Please join us for a demonstration by the Ohara school.
When: 10:00 a.m.
Where: Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego
More information: Keiko Schneider, 858-759-2640

SAN DIEGUITO GARDEN CLUB MEETING
When: 9:30 a.m. Social; 10:00 a.m. – Noon Meeting
Where: San Diego Botanic Garden, Encinitas
More information: Rita Koczela, President, 760-436-3036; *http://sdgc.klmmicro.com*

MISSION HILLS GARDEN CLUB MEETING
When: 6:00 p.m.
Where: United Church of Christ, 4070 Jackdaw St., San Diego
More information: *www.missionhillsgardenclub.org*

JANUARY 28

CROWN GARDEN CLUB MEETING
The topic will be urban trees presented by the San Diego Port District.
When: 9:00 a.m. social; 9:30 a.m. meeting
Where: The Winn Room, Coronado Library, 6400 Orange Ave, Coronado
More information: *www.crowngardenclub.org*

VILLAGE GARDEN CLUB OF LA JOLLA MEETING
Allan Mandell discusses "Seeing Gardens with a Photographer's Vision."
When: 10:00 a.m.
Where: Torrey Pines Christian Church, 8320 La Jolla Scenic Dr. North, La Jolla
More information: 858-454-4117, *www.villagegardenclubofla jolla.com*

February Events

FEBRUARY 1

PALOMAR DISTRICT'S FLORAL DESIGN FORUM
Ikebana instructor Mitsuko Takeya will present "The Beauty of Simplicity."
When: 12:30 p.m.
Where: Carlsbad Woman's Club, 3320 Monroe Street, Carlsbad

FEBRUARY 2

SAN DIEGO COUNTY ORCHID SOCIETY MEETING
When: 7:30 p.m.
Where: Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego
More information: *www.sdorchids.com*

FEBRUARY 3

THE SAN DIEGO HERB CLUB MEETING
When: 7:00 p.m.
Where: Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego
More information: *www.thesandiegoherbclub.com*

PALOMAR ORCHID SOCIETY MEETING
When: 7:00 p.m.
Where: Carlsbad Woman's Club, 3320 Monroe St., Carlsbad
More information: *www.palomarorchid.org*

FEBRUARY 5

CARLSBAD GARDEN CLUB MEETING
Kent Horner will discuss water-wise innovations in landscape design.
When: 1:00 p.m.
Where: Carlsbad City Library, 1775 Dove Lane, Carlsbad
More information: *www.carlsbadgardenclub.com*

VISTA GARDEN CLUB MEETING
Cindy Valdez will present a floral demonstration and discuss Canterbury Gardens.
When: 12:00 p.m.
Where: Vista Senior Center, 1400 Vale Terrance Dr., Vista
More information: *www.vistagardenclub.org*

FEBRUARY 6

2 DAYS

SAN DIEGO CAMELLIA SOCIETY'S 63RD ANNUAL CAMELLIA SHOW
Free and open to the public; enter your blooms or just enjoy the show.
When: Entries due by 8:00 a.m. on Saturday, Feb. 6. Show is Saturday, Feb. 6, 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., and Sunday, Feb 7, 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
Where: Room 101 Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego
More information: 760-942-1919

SOUTHWEST HEMEROCALLIS SOCIETY MEETING
When: 10:00 a.m.
Where: Ecke Building, San Diego Botanic Garden, 230 Quail Gardens Drive, Encinitas
More information: 858 -279-5135

FEBRUARY 7

HON NON BO ASSOCIATION MEETING
When: 10:30 a.m.
Where: Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego
More information: 858-689-0957

TAKA SUMI-E SOCIETY MEETING
When: 9:00 a.m.
Where: Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego
More information: 619-255-2501

FEBRUARY 8

SAN DIEGO HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY MEETING
Author John Greenlee will discuss "Meadows by Design: A Revolution in Sustainable Landscapes."
When: 6:30 p.m.
Where: Surfside Race Place, Del Mar Fairgrounds, Del Mar
More information: *www.sdhortsoc.org*

FEBRUARY 9

OHARA SCHOOL OF IKEBANA, LA JOLLA CHAPTER MEETING
When: 10:00 a.m.
Where: La Jolla Library, 7555 Draper Ave., La Jolla
More information: 858-672-7850

BROMELIAD STUDY GROUP OF BALBOA PARK MEETING
When: 7:00 p.m.
Where: Room 104, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego
More information: 619-479-5500, *www3.adnc.com/~lynnd/brominfo.html*

DOS VALLES GARDEN CLUB MEETING
When: 12:00 Noon
Where: St. Stephen Catholic Church, 31020 Cole Grade Road, Valley Center
More information: *www.dosvallesgardenclub.org*

SAN DIEGO GERANIUM SOCIETY MEETING
When: 7:00 p.m.–9:00 p.m.
Where: Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego
More information: 858-472-0540, *www.sdgeranium.org*

FEBRUARY 10

BONITA VALLEY GARDEN CLUB MEETING
When: 9:30 a.m. Hospitality; 10:00 a.m. Meeting
Where: Bonita Library Community Room, 4375 Bonita Road, Bonita
More information: Darlene Montgomery, 619-267-1585, *dmontg@live.com*

POINT LOMA GARDEN CLUB MEETING
Author Aenne Carver will share some of her favorite garden tips and recipes.
When: 10:00 a.m.
Where: Portuguese Hall, 2818 Avenida de Portugal, San Diego
More information: *www.plgc.org*

POWAY VALLEY GARDEN CLUB MEETING
The Plant Man Nursery's Michael Buckner presents "Designing with Succulents."
When: 9:00 a.m.
Where: Templar's Hall at Old Poway Park, Poway
More information: *www.powayvalleygardenclub.org*

SAN DIEGO EPIPHYLLUM SOCIETY MEETING
When: 7:30 p.m.
Where: Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego
More information: *www.epiphyllum.com*

FEBRUARY 13

SAN DIEGO BROMELIAD SOCIETY MEETING
The San Diego Bromeliad Society welcomes new members.
When: 10:00 a.m.
Where: Room 104, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego
More information: *http://bsi.org/webpages/san_diego.html*

SAN DIEGO IRIS SOCIETY BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION
Celebrate with us and special guest speaker Fred Kerr of Rainbow Acres.
When: 1:00 p.m.
Where: Best Western Seven Seas Lodge, 411 Hotel Circle South, San Diego
More information: Please RSVP to Edith Schade at 760-788-1378

FEBRUARY 14

SAN DIEGO BONSAI CLUB, INC., MEETING
When: 10:30 a.m.
Where: Room 101 Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego
More information: *www.sandiegobonsaiclub.com*

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA PLUMERIA SOCIETY MEETING
When: 1:00 p.m.
Where: Recital Hall, Balboa Park, San Diego
More information: *www.socalplumeriasociety.com*

FEBRUARY 16

LA JOLLA GARDEN CLUB MEETING
When: 1:30 p.m.
Where: La Jolla Lutheran Church, 7111 La Jolla Blvd., La Jolla
More information: Fran Sheinbein, 858-488-5618

RANCHO SAN DIEGO GARDEN CLUB MEETING
When: 10:00 a.m.
Where: 1077 Vista Madera, El Cajon
Contact: Connie Beck, 619-749-4059

CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY, SAN DIEGO CHAPTER MEETING
When: 7:30 p.m.
Where: Room 101 or 104, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego
More information: 760-434-5033, *www.cnpssd.org*

FEBRUARY 17

SAN DIEGO CAMELLIA SOCIETY MEETING
World renowned camellia grower and hybridizer,Tom Nuccio of Nuccio's Nurseries in Altadena, will be our guest speaker.
When: 7:00 p.m. social; 7:30 business meeting
Where: Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego
More information: 760-942-1919

SAN DIEGO COUNTY CYMBIDIUM SOCIETY MEETING
When: 7:00 p.m.
Where: Carlsbad Woman's Club, 3320 Monroe St., Carlsbad
More information: 858-748-8355

FEBRUARY 18

CHULA VISTA GARDEN CLUB MEETING
When: 11:45 a.m.
Where: Norman Park Senior Center, 270 F St., Chula Vista
More information: Marilyn Saleny, 619-656-8669

SAN DIEGO FERN SOCIETY MEETING
When: 7:30 p.m.
Where: Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego
More information: *www.sdfern.com*

FEBRUARY 19

CALIFORNIA RARE FRUIT GROWERS, NORTH COUNTY CHAPTER
When 7:00 p.m.
Where: MiraCosta College Hort. Bldg., Room 7003, Oceanside
More information: *www.crfg.org/local.html*

FEBRUARY 20

MIRACOSTA HORTICULTURE CLUB OF OCEANSIDE
Christine Kotula will discuss "Invasive Plants of San Diego."
When: 12:45 p.m.
Where: Aztlan Room, 2nd floor, Student Union Bldg., MiraCosta College
More information: *www.gardencentral.org/californiagc/miracosta*

FEBRUARY 22

BRIDGE AND BAY GARDEN CLUB MEETING
Join us for our "Friendship Tea."
When: 9:45 a.m.
Where: The Winn Room, Coronado Public Library, 640 Orange Ave., Coronado
More information: *www.bridgeandbaygardenclub.org*

CARLSBAD AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY MEETING
When: 10:30 a.m.
Where: Vista Library, 700 Eucalyptus Ave., Vista
More information: 760-295-0484

LAKE HODGES NATIVE PLANT CLUB MEETING
Professor George Vourilitis will discuss soil nitrogen enrichment.
When: 2:00 p.m.
Where: Rancho Bernardo Library, 17110 Bernardo Centre Dr., Rancho Bernardo
More information: *www.lhnpc.org*

SAN DIEGO ROSE SOCIETY MEETING
Experts answer spring pruning and care questions.
When: 7:30 p.m.
Where: Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego
More information: *www.sdrosesociety.org*

FEBRUARY 23

BONITA ORGANIC GARDEN CLUB MEETING
When: 6:30 p.m.
Where: Bonita Library Community Room, 4375 Bonita Rd., Bonita
More information: 619-741-8448

BERNARDO GARDENERS
Join us for a guided tour of the Water Conservation Garden.
When: 1:00 p.m.
Where: Cuyamaca College, 12122 Cuyamaca College Drive West, El Cajon
More information: *www.bernardogardeners.org*

FALLBROOK GARDEN CLUB
Lisa Pavel will present "Herbs in the Garden."
When: 1:00 p.m.
Where: Fallbrook Community Center, 341 Herald Land, Fallbrook
More information: *www.fallbrookgardenclub.org*

SAN CARLOS GARDEN CLUB
When: 9:30 a.m.
Where: St. Dunstan's, 6556 Park Ridge Rd., San Carlos
More information: 619-448-3613

Continued

FEBRUARY 24

CALIFORNIA RARE FRUIT GROWERS, S. D. CHAPTER
When 7:00 p.m.
Where: Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego
More information: *www.crfgsandiego.org*

IKEBANA INTERNATIONAL CHAPTER 119
An Ikenobo school demonstration will be featured.
When: 10:00 a.m.
Where: Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego
More information: Keiko Schneider, 858-759-2640

SAN DIEGUITO GARDEN CLUB MEETING
When: 9:30 a.m. Social; 10:00 a.m. – 12:00 Noon Meeting
Where: San Diego Botanic Garden, Encinitas
More information: Rita Koczela, President, 760-436-3036; *http://sdgc.klmmicro.com*

MISSION HILLS GARDEN CLUB
When: 6:00 p.m.
Where: United Church of Christ, 4070 Jackdaw St., San Diego
More information: *www.missionhillsgardenclub.org*

FEBRUARY 25

CROWN GARDEN CLUB
Join us for "The Fabulous Demonstration Luncheon."
When: 9:00 a.m. social: 9:30 a.m. meeting
Where: The Winn Room, Coronado Library, 6400 Orange Ave, Coronado
More information: *www.crowngardenclub.org*

VILLAGE GARDEN CLUB OF LA JOLLA
Bill Toone will present "Roar of the Monarch."
When: 10:00 a.m.
Where: Torrey Pines Christian Church, 8320 La Jolla Scenic Dr. North, La Jolla
More information: *www.villagegardenclubofla jolla.com*

FEBRUARY 27

PALOMAR CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY
When: 12:00 Noon
Where: Joslyn Senior Center, 724 N. Broadway, Escondido
More information: 760-741-7553

2 DAYS

OHARA SCHOOL OF IKEBANA SHOW AND BAZAAR
When: Noon to 4:00 p.m. Saturday; 10:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Sunday
Where: Room 101, Casa del Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego
More information: 858-454-4793

Walks, Tours & Garden Events

SAN DIEGO BOTANIC GARDEN TOUR
Come and meet up at the Visitor's Center for a weekly tour of the San Diego Botanic Garden formerly known as The Quail Botanical Gardens. No reservations required. Free with admission.
When: 10:00 a.m. – 11:00 a.m., every Saturday
Where: Quail Botanical Gardens, 230 Quail Gardens Drive, Encinitas
More information: *www.sdbgarden.org*

SAN DIEGO BOTANIC GARDEN: CHILDREN'S EVENTS
The Hamilton Children's Garden offers a number of events specially designed to entertain and educate children and their caregivers. Please contact San Diego Botanic Garden for a complete listing of their scheduled events.
When: Ongoing—contact for program-specific times.
Where: San Diego Botanic Garden, 230 Quail Gardens Drive, Encinitas
More information: *www.sdbgarden.org*

WATER CONSERVATION GARDEN TOUR
Enjoy a docent-led tour of the Water Conservation Garden at Cuyamaca College.
When: Every Saturday at 10:30 a.m. and every Sunday at 1:30 p.m.
Where: Water Conservation Garden, 12122 Cuyamaca College Drive West, El Cajon
More information: *www.thegarden.org*

CNPS NATIVE PLANT WALK
Join landscape architect and member of the CNPS San Diego Chapter Kay Stewart for a two-hour, easy walk into Tecolote Canyon and back. Along the way you'll study and learn about the plants. This guided walk is free, but may be canceled due to inclement weather or poor trail conditions.
When: 9 a.m. – 11 a.m., first Sunday of the month
Where: Tecolote Canyon Nature Center, 5180 Tecolote Road, San Diego
More information: *www.sandiego.gov/park-and-recreation/parks/tecltc.shtml*, (858) 581-9959

SAN DIEGO CHINESE HISTORICAL MUSEUM AND GARDEN
Come visit the San Diego Chinese Historical Museum's exquisite Asian garden.
When: 10:30 a.m. – 4 p.m., Tuesday through Saturday; 12 p.m. – 4 p.m., Sunday
Where: San Diego Chinese Historical Museum and Garden, 404 3rd Ave., San Diego
More information: *www.sdchm.org/garden*

Gardening Classes

WALTER ANDERSEN NURSERY, PT. LOMA GARDENING CLASS
Learn a variety of gardening tricks every Saturday morning by attending a free class at Walter Andersen Nursery's Pt. Loma Nursery. Please contact the store for a schedule of events.
When: 9:00 a.m. – 10:00 a.m., every Saturday
Where: Walter Andersen's Pt. Loma, 3642 Enterprise St., San Diego
More information: *www.walterandersen.com*

WALTER ANDERSEN NURSERY, POWAY GARDENING CLASS
Come join others at Walter Andersen's Poway store for a free, weekly seasonal garden lecture. Please contact the store for a schedule of events.
When: 9:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m., every Saturday
Where: Walter Andersen's Poway, 12755 Danielson Court, Poway
More information: *www.walterandersen.com*

WATER CONSERVATION GARDEN CLASSES
The Water Conservation Garden provides a number of entertaining, information-packed courses covering the most topical gardening topics and presented by skilled and knowledgeable experts. Please contact the Water Conservation Garden for program details and any applicable fees.
When: Contact for program-specific times.
Where: 12122 Cuyamaca College Drive West, El Cajon
More information: *www.thegarden.org*, 619-660-0614, x10

Balboa Park Events

SAN DIEGO ZOO
Visit the world famous San Diego Zoo for Plant Days and Orchid Odyssey.
When: 9 a.m. – 4 p.m., third Friday of each month
Where: San Diego Zoo, 2920 Zoo Drive, Balboa Park, San Diego
More information: *www.sandiegozoo.com*

SAN DIEGO JAPANESE FRIENDSHIP GARDEN
Enhance your well-being with a visit to this Japanese-style garden. There is a $4 fee for adults, $2.50 fee for Seniors (55+), children and military with I.D. .
When: 10 a.m. – 4 p.m., Tuesday through Sunday
Where: San Diego Japanese Friendship Garden, 2215 Pan American Road, Balboa Park, San Diego
More information: *www.niwa.org*

BALBOA PARK OFFSHOOT TOURS
Learn about Balboa Park's plants as volunteer horticulturists lead visitors on free, one-hour themed walks. (Inclement weather and low-turnout cancels the tour.)
When: 10 a.m., every Saturday
Where: Balboa Park Visitor Center, 1549 El Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego
More information: *www.balboapark.org*

BALBOA PARK INTERPRETIVE WALKS
Join volunteer-guides on this free, history-oriented walk through Balboa Park.
When: 1 p.m., every Tuesday
Where: Balboa Park Visitor Center, 1549 El Prado, Balboa Park, San Diego
More information: *www.balboapark.org*

SAN DIEGO NATURAL HISTORY MUSEUM CANYONEER WALKS
Join trained volunteer guides on a local canyon walks. There is a $2 fee.
When: Times vary; check website for specific event details
Where: Locations vary; check website for specific event details
More information: *www.sdnhm.org/canyoneers*

SAN DIEGO FLORAL ASSOCIATION

Garden Center and Library – Founded in 1907
1650 El Prado #105, San Diego, CA 92101-1684 619-232-5762 Located in Casa del Prado, Room 105, Balboa Park
Under the sponsorship of the Park & Recreation Department, City of San Diego, California

Mission Statement: To promote the knowledge and appreciation of horticulture and floriculture in the San Diego region.

OBJECTIVES

1. To educate and encourage regional gardeners through lectures, classes, publications, scholarships and library resources.
2. To promote the use of regionally appropriate plants and gardening techniques, including natives and Mediterranean climate adapted plants.
3. To encourage, educate, and support floral design activities for personal and public display.
4. To advise and encourage leaders and the community in conservation and beautification of public and private spaces. To network and support plant-interested groups and societies

GENERAL MEETINGS 2010

February 17
April 21
June 16
October 20

Casa del Prado, Room 101
Balboa Park, San Diego

OFFICERS

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Sandra Dysart

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Kay Harry
Michele Kownacki

Term 2009-2011
Cheryl Gaidmore
Amy Wood
Laura Starr

Term 2009-2012
Suzanne Sorger
Diane Maher
Christie Wright

Arrangers Guild Liaison
Suzanne Michel

AFFILIATES

CHIRP FOR GARDEN WILDLIFE, INC.
Exec. Director: Maureen Austin
President: Lisa Lomax
P. O. Box 532
Alpine, CA 91903-0532
619-445-8352
www.chirp.org

CITY BEAUTIFUL OF SAN DIEGO
President: Kathy Puplava
P. O. Box 9424
San Diego, CA 92169-0424
858-576-3828
www.citybeautifulofsandiego.org

CORONADO FLORAL ASSOCIATION
President: Leslie Crawford
P. O. Box 180188
Coronado, CA 92178-0188
619-435-8079
www.coronadofloralassoc.org

FRIENDS OF THE HORTENSE MILLER GARDEN
P. O. Box 742
Laguna Beach, CA 92652-0742
949-499-5518
www.hortensemillergarden.org

FRIENDS OF THE MARSTON HOUSE
c/o SOHO
2476 San Diego Ave.
San Diego, CA 92110
619-297-9327
www.marstonhouse.org
Friends@marstonhouse.org

JAPANESE FRIENDSHIP GARDEN BALBOA PARK
Contact: Luanne Kanzawa
2125 Park Blvd.
San Diego, CA 92101-4792
619-232-2721
www.niwa.org

PALOMAR DISTRICT CALIFORNIA GARDEN CLUBS, INC.
Director: Jane McKee
1276 Palomares Ct.
Fallbrook, CA 92078-1620
760-728-6373
palomardirector@aol.com
http://palomardistrict.tripod.com

Quail Botantical Gardens Foundation, Inc.
SAN DIEGO BOTANIC GARDEN
President/CEO: Julian Duval
P. O. Box 230005
Encinitas, CA 92023-0005
760-436-3036
www.SDBGarden.org

SAN DIEGO BOTANICAL GARDEN FOUNDATION
President: Ed Hamilton
2125 Park Blvd.
San Diego, CA 92101-4792
619-234-8901
www.sdbgf.org

SAN DIEGO CHINESE HISTORICAL MUSEUM AND GARDEN
Executive Director: Alexander Chuang
404 Third Ave.
San Diego, CA 92101-6803
619-338-9888
www.sdchm.org

SAN DIEGO ZOO
Horticulture Department
P. O. Box 120551
San Diego, CA 92112-0551
619-231-1515 Ext. 4298
www.sandiegozoo.org

SEAWORLD OF CALIFORNIA
500 Sea World Dr.
San Diego, CA 92109-7904
619-222-6363
www.seaworld.com/sandiego

SOUTHWESTERN JUDGES COUNCIL
Chair: Sandi Lord
P. O. Box 876
Pauma Valley, CA 92061-0876
760-727-7614
North County Fair, Escondido, Community Room

TAKA SUMI-E SOCIETY
Contact: Takashi Ijichi
1455 49th Street
San Diego, CA 92102-2625
619-255-2501
takasumi-e@email.com

WATER CONSERVATION GARDEN
Executive Director: Marty Eberhardt
12122 Cuyamaca College Dr. West
El Cajon, CA 92019-4317
619-660-0614
info@thegarden.org
www.thegarden.org

PROFESSIONAL AFFILIATES:

CLASSIC GARDENS
P. O. Box 2711
La Jolla, CA 92038-2711
858-459-0316

FLOWERS OF POINT LOMA
2170 Chatsworth Blvd.
San Diego, CA 92107-2423
619-223-5475

MASTER LANDSCAPE SERVICES, INC.
3089C Clairemont Drive #296
San Diego, CA 92117-6802
619-296-9687

SAN DIEGO COUNTY FAIR, PAUL ECKE JR. FLOWER & GARDEN SHOW
2260 Jimmy Durante Blvd.
Del Mar, CA 92014-2216
www.sdfair.com

SAN DIEGO COUNTY WATER AUTHORITY
Contact: Darren Simon
4677 Overland Ave.
San Diego, CA 92123-1233
858-522-6600
www.sdcwa.org

SMALL SPACE CREATIONS
6333 College Grove Way
San Diego, CA 92115-7217
619-981-3273
http://smallspacecreations.com/

JIM STELLUTI CONSULTING LANDSCAPE ARTIST
1928 Madison Ave.
San Diego, CA 92116-2722
619-298-7641

GARDEN CLUBS:

BERNARDO GARDENERS
President: Liliane Dickinson
P. O. Box 27179
San Diego, CA 92198-1179
858-672-2454
www.bernardogardeners.org

BONITA VALLEY GARDEN CLUB
President: Leslie Schroeder
2476 Eagle Valley Dr.
Chula Vista, CA 91914-4019
619-987-9257

BRIDGE AND BAY GARDEN CLUB
President: Pat Cooley
950 Olive Ave.
Coronado, CA 92118-2710
619-437-8227

CARLSBAD GARDEN CLUB
President: Ellen McGrath-Thorpe
Publicity: Mary Hassing
P. O. Box 626
Carlsbad, CA 92008
760-494-7774

CHULA VISTA GARDEN CLUB
President: Marilyn Saleny
P. O. Box 57
Chula Vista, CA 91912-1016
619-421-6072

CROWN GARDEN CLUB
President: Shannon Player
P. O. Box 180476
Coronado, CA 92178-0476
619-435-1746
www.crowngardenclub.org

DOS VALLES GARDEN CLUB
President: Carol Curcio
P. O. Box 123
Valley Center, CA 92082
760-749-5078
www.dosvallesgardenclub.org

FALLBROOK GARDEN CLUB
Co-Presidents: Connie Forest & Janice Phoenix
P. O. Box 1702
Fallbrook, CA 92088-1702
760-451-0792
www.fallbrookgardenclub.org

LA JOLLA GARDEN CLUB
President: Jody Peterson
P. O. Box 2713
La Jolla, CA 92038
858-729-0711
Jodypete3522@gmail.com

LAS JARDINERAS
President: Ann Gallagher
1255 Savoy St.
San Diego, CA 92107
619-222-3559

MIRACOSTA HORT. CLUB OF OCEANSIDE
President: Louise Ortega
158 Carey Rd.
Oceanside, CA 92054
760-598-6571
www.gardencentral.org/californiagc/miracosta

MISSION HILLS GARDEN CLUB
President: Scott Borden
Mission Hills Garden Club
3145 Brant St.
San Diego, CA 92103-5502
619-923-3624
www.missionhillsgardenclub.org

POINT LOMA GARDEN CLUB
President: Julie Hasl
P. O. Box 6382
San Diego, CA 92166
619-564-7036
www.plgc.org

POWAY VALLEY GARDEN CLUB
President: Emily Troxell
P. O. Box 27
Poway, CA 92074-0027
858-672-0459
http://powayvalleygardenclub.org/

RAMONA GARDEN CLUB
President: Georgie Suitor
P. O. Box 1412
Ramona, CA 92065
760-788-9876, Publicity & Programs
www.ramonagardenclub.com

RANCHO SAN DIEGO GARDEN CLUB
Contact: Connie Beck
1077 Vista Madera
El Cajon, CA 92019
619-749-4059

RANCHO SANTA FE GARDEN CLUB
President: Hal Sexton
P. O. Box 483
Rancho Santa Fe, CA 92067-0483
858-756-1554
www.rsfgardenclub.org

SAN CARLOS GARDEN CLUB
President: Genny Duetsch
9241 Galston Dr.
Santee, CA 92071-1510
619-448-3613

SAN DIEGO HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY
President: Susi Torre-Bueno
P. O. Box 231869
Encinitas, CA 92023-1869
760-295-7089
www.sdhortsoc.org

SAN DIEGUITO GARDEN CLUB
President: Geri Thiroway
1105 Santa Madera Ct.
Solana Beach, CA 92075
760-436-3036
www.sdgc.klmmicro.com

VILLAGE GARDEN CLUB OF LA JOLLA
President: Nan Kaufman
4638 Alhambra St.
San Diego, CA 92107-4021
619-225-8349
www.villagegardenclubofla jolla.com

VISTA GARDEN CLUB
President: Lynn Paine
P. O. Box 44
Vista, CA 92085-0044
760-630-0383
www.vistagardenclub.org

IKEBANA SCHOOLS:

IKEBANA INTERNATIONAL CHAPTER 119
President: Hiroko Fukuhara
P. O. Box 2248
Rancho Santa Fe, CA 92067-2248
858-673-3635
hiropan8@san.rr.com

KENOBO CHAPTER OF SAN DIEGO
President: Mrs. Charles Oehler
2822 Walker Dr.
San Diego, CA 92123-3056
858-278-5689
www.sandiegoyuyu.com

OHARA SCHOOL OF IKEBANA LA JOLLA CHAPTER
P. O. Box 195
Solana Beach, CA 92075
858-672-7850

OHARA SCHOOL OF IKEBANA SAN DIEGO CHAPTER
President: Jackie Zhang
6435 Muirlands Dr.
La Jolla, CA 92037-6310
858-454-4793
www.oharaschoolsandiego.org

SOGETSU SCHOOL OF IKEBANA SAN DIEGO BRANCH
Director: Hiroko Szechinski
10830 Montego Dr.
San Diego, CA 92124-1421
858-571-6137

SOGETSU SCHOOL OF IKEBANA
Master Instructor: Sumiko Lahey
2829 Flax Dr.
San Diego, CA 92154-2160
619-429-6198

PLANT SOCIETIES:

AFRICAN VIOLET

CARLSBAD AFRICAN VIOLET SOCIETY
President: Patty Regan
2000 S. Melrose Dr., #119
Vista, CA 92081
760-295-0484

BEGONIA

ALFRED D. ROBINSON BRANCH AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY
President: Doris Smith
4505 Long Branch Ave.
San Diego, CA 92107-2333
619-222-1294

MABLE CORWIN BRANCH AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY
President: Denise Knobloch
465 4th Avenue #3
Chula Vista, CA 91910
619-409-4997
www.kolzbegonia.com

MARGARET LEE BRANCH AMERICAN BEGONIA SOCIETY
President: Michael Ludwig
6040 Upland St.
San Diego, CA 92114-1933
619-262-7535

BONSAI

HON NON BO ASSOCIATION
President: Brenda Storey
9976 Dauntless St.
San Diego, CA 92126-5514
858-689-0957

SAN DIEGO BONSAI CLUB, INC.
President: Steve Valentine
P. O. Box 40037
San Diego, CA 92164-0037
619-699-8776
www.sandiegobonsaiclub.com

BROMELIAD

BROMELIAD STUDY GROUP OF BALBOA PARK
President: Chuck Largin
9137 Dillion Dr.
La Mesa, CA 91941

SAN DIEGO BROMELIAD SOCIETY
President: Nancy Groves
P. O. Box 83996
San Diego, CA 92138-3996
858-453-6486
http://bsi.org/webpages/san_diego.html

CACTUS & SUCCULENT

PALOMAR CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY
President: Paul M. Steward
P. O. Box 840
Escondido, CA 92033
760-741-7553

SAN DIEGO CACTUS AND SUCCULENT SOCIETY
President: Chris Miller
P. O. Box 33181
San Diego, CA 92163-3181
619-258-9810
sdcss.net

CAMELLIA

SAN DIEGO CAMELLIA SOCIETY
President: Dean Turney
467 Fulvia Street
Encinitas, CA 92024
760-942-1919

DAHLIA

SAN DIEGO COUNTY DAHLIA SOCIETY
President: David J. Tooley
11375 Nawa Way
San Diego, CA 92129-1116
858-672-2593
djsj21643@aol.com

DAYLILY (HEMEROCALLIS)

SOUTHWEST HEMEROCALLIS SOCIETY
Contact: Gerald Lohmann
6616 Rockglen Ave
San Diego, CA 92111
(858) 279-5135
GLLohmann2@aol.com

EPIPHYLLUM

SAN DIEGO EPIPHYLLUM SOCIETY
President: Sandra Chapin
P. O. Box 126127
San Diego, CA 92112-6127
858-485-5414
www.epiphyllum.com

FERN

SAN DIEGO FERN SOCIETY
President: Kathie Russell
1418 Park Row
La Jolla, CA 92037-3710
619-464-2609
www.sdfern.com

FRUIT

CALIFORNIA RARE FRUIT GROWERS, S. D. CHAPTER
Chair: David Yetz
P. O. Box 152943
San Diego, CA 92195
619-659-8788
www.crfsandiego.org

CALIFORNIA RARE FRUIT GROWERS, NORTH COUNTY CHAPTER
Contact: Ben Pierce
713 Ruskin Place
San Marcos, CA 92069-1197
760-412-9614
www.crfg.org/local.html

GERANIUM

SAN DIEGO GERANIUM SOCIETY
President: Melissa Worton
3722 Tanner Lane
San Diego, CA 92111
858-560-0510
www.sdgeranium.org

HERB

THE SAN DIEGO HERB CLUB
Co-Presidents: Judy Dunning & Cindy Christ
200 Highline Trail
El Cajon, CA 92021-4082
619-579-0222
www.thesandiegoherbclub.com

IRIS

SAN DIEGO IRIS SOCIETY
President: Janis Shackelford
760-788-1376
http://sites.google.com/site/sandiegoirissociety

SAN FERNANDO VALLEY IRIS SOCIETY
Pres: Mary Anne Abrahms
4512 Sunnyslope Ave.
Sherman Oaks, CA 91423-3119
818-986-4188
www.geocities.com/sfvis/

NATIVE PLANTS

CALIFORNIA NATIVE PLANT SOCIETY
SAN DIEGO CHAPTER
Carolyn Martus
P. O. Box 121390
San Diego, CA 92112-1390
760-434-5033
www.cnpssd.org

LAKE HODGES NATIVE PLANT CLUB
President: Vernon Bluhm
P. O. Box 301582
Escondido, CA 92030
760-745-4008
www.lhnpc.org

ORCHID

PALOMAR ORCHID SOCIETY
President: Dr. Gilbert J. Ho
2560 Wilt Rd.
Fallbrook, CA 92028-9587
760-840-8659
www.palomarorchid.org

SAN DIEGO COUNTY CYMBIDIUM SOCIETY
A BRANCH OF THE CYMBIDIUM SOCIETY OF AMERICA, INC.
Pres: Loren Ellsworth
14730 Dash Way, Poway, CA 92064-2914
858-748-8355

SAN DIEGO COUNTY ORCHID SOCIETY
Pres: David Brown
4029 Georgia Street
San Diego, CA 92103
619-294-5925
www.sdorchids.com

ORGANIC

BONITA ORGANIC GARDEN CLUB
Pres: Jane Campbell
619-741-8448
kreepyhollow@gmail.com

PLUMERIA

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA PLUMERIA SOCIETY
Pres: Roland Dubuc
P. O. Box 20553, El Cajon, CA 92021-0940
858-565-4597
www.socalplumeriasociety.com

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EAST COUNTY ROSE SOCIETY
Pres: Kristi Sutherlin
2007 Muira Lane, El Cajon, 92109
619-447-4131
www.eastcountyrosesociety.com

SAN DIEGO ROSE SOCIETY
Pres: Roger English
6705 Maury Dr., San Diego, CA 92119-2020
619-462-5753
www.sdrosesociety.org

WATER GARDEN

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA WATER GARDEN SOCIETY
Pres: Ed Simpson
1302 Avocado Rd., Oceanside, CA 92054-5702
760-436-3704
www.sdwatergarden.org

Send changes to Affiliates Editor, *California Garden,* 1650 El Prado #105, San Diego, CA 92101-1684. Call 619-232-5762
Email: *membership@sdfloral.org*
March/April 2010 issue: January 10, 2010 Each affiliate group is entitled to a business-card sized ad at half price. We can accept your designed ad (TIFF, JPEG or PDF files preferred).

In Season

Here are some items that you may find being sold from the stalls at your local Farmers' Market in January and February. (For more information on San Diego County Farmers' Markets, visit *www.sdfarmbureau.org*.)

January: Beets, broccoli, cabbage, carrots, cauliflower, celery, chard, cherimoyas, grapefruit, guavas, herbs, kale, kiwi, kumquats, lemons, lettuce, limes, macadamia nuts, navel oranges, peas, potatoes, radishes, rhubarb, snap peas, spinach, tangelos, tangerines, white turnips, winter squash and various cut flowers.

February: Artichokes, asparagus, beets, broccoli, cabbage, carrots, cauliflower, celery, chard, cherimoyas, grapefruit, guavas, herbs, kale, kiwi, kumquats, lemons, limes, lettuce, navel oranges, peas, potatoes, radishes, rhubarb, snap peas, spinach, winter squash, strawberries, tangelos, tangerines, white turnips, and various cut flowers.

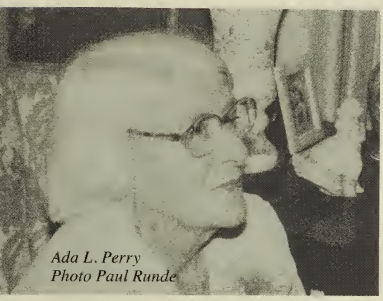
Rhubarb

Photo: Rachel Cobb

Contact Us! Do you have an event, class or meeting that you'd like to let *California Garden* readers know about? If so, please email *sdfloral@gmail.com* or Denise Thompson at *EarthD@san.rr.com* with your group's name, the meeting date and time, meeting place, any applicable fees, event program and contact information. You may also submit the above information via regular mail, sent to Calendar Editor, San Diego Floral Association, 1650 El Prado Room 105, San Diego, CA 92101. Space is limited, so please get in touch today to ensure inclusion! The deadline for the upcoming Mar/Apr 2010 issue is January 10, 2010; the deadline for the May/June 2010 issue is March 10, 2010.

From The Archives

"To anyone who knew her, there was no doubt Ada Perry left San Diego a better place." With those words, the San Diego Union *celebrated the life of one of the area's top "garden experts" at the time of her passing in the late 1980s. Self-taught, Perry generously shared her knowledge and passion for botany and gardening in articles for this magazine and the newspaper and on a popular radio program. Her formula for rose fertilizer, updated by today's gardening doyen Pat Welsh in her new book (excerpted in this issue), lives on today, as do a number of plants named in her honor. – Mary James*



Ada L. Perry
Photo Paul Runde

March-April 1982

Ada L. Perry by Dorothy Behrends

Another honor has been awarded Ada Perry, former editor and 50-year contributor to *California Garden* magazine and long time writer for the *San Diego Union* newspaper. The latest plant to be named after her is *Begonia* 'Ada Perry,' hybridized in 1979 by Robert Ammerman of Vista, California. This plant has been tested and found to be a sturdy, foliage begonia with medium green sharply lobed leaves covered with pink bristly hairs. Its pink flowers are borne well above these attractive leaves. It becomes a good-sized rhizomatous plant which thrives outdoors in frost-free locations such as filtered-light shade gardens having ample rain drainage.

The mini rose 'Ada Perry' is another of the hybrid plants bearing her name. It opens orange-red, fading slightly at maturity, although it often holds its beauty for over two weeks, a remarkably long time. This mini rose was hybridized in 1978 by Dee Bennett of Chula Vista, California.

The spuria iris 'Ada Perry' was hybridized in 1976 by Eleanor McCown of Holtville, California. This wine-red beauty has proved to be a vigorous grower and highly successful near the coast.

Ada has recently given her permission to a hybridizer to name a fuchsia 'Ada Perry.' This will not be introduced before 1983, after testing, and will be described at that time.

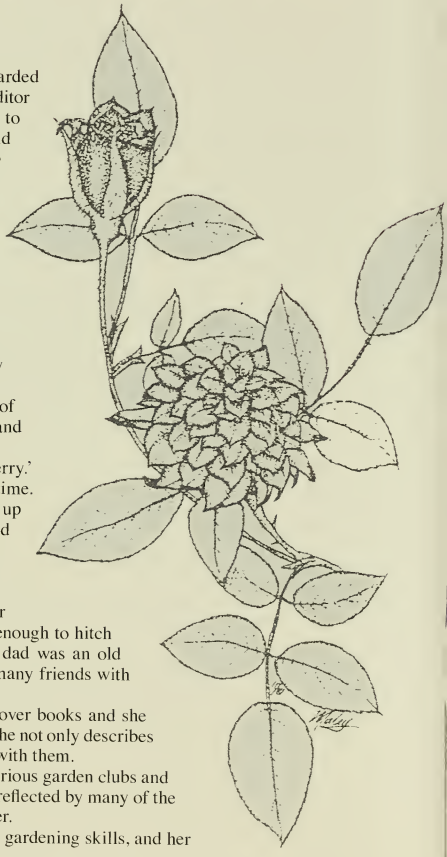
Ada says that her life-long love of plants began in 1910 while she was growing up in Spokane and Olympia, Washington. In the early twenties her parents purchased two acres on North Ozark Street in San Diego, California, and so were partially responsible for her continued interest in plants. Soon Ada went to work for the old *Harris Seed Company* then located at 6th and "B" streets (San Diego). . . .

Beginning in 1956 she went to work for the prominent nurseryman Walter Andersen. "I honestly believe no other nurseryman in town would have had sense enough to hitch me up to a typewriter. I just did what came naturally—pound a typewriter. [My dad was an old time newspaper man.]" While working at this nursery until July, 1980, Ada made many friends with customers and fellow workers.

Ada has been a good horticultural student all her life. She continues to pore over books and she continues to keep an open mind. New-to-Ada plants are always a joy to her, because she not only describes and writes about interesting plants, but she grows them and relates her experiences with them.

Her weekly newspaper columns have been enjoyed for over 22 years. . . . The various garden clubs and plant societies in the county are appreciative of Ada's effective publicity, which was reflected by many of the organizations' eager participation in the ADA PERRY DAY reception last November.

All the plants named for Ada L. Perry serve as reminders of her friendship, her gardening skills, and her long years of writing for our education and enjoyment.



Rose 'Ada Perry'
Drawing Pat Maley

San Diego Camellia Society

Would like to extend an invitation for you to join us at our premier events and meetings for the 2009-2010 season.

Annual Camellia Show

February 6th & 7th, 2010

Saturday 1p.m- 4 p.m
Sunday 9 a.m- 4 p.m

Camellia Plants for Sale
both Saturday & Sunday

Meeting with Tom Nuccio

February 17th, 2010

Wednesday 7 p.m

Come and listen to this world renown expert on camellia care and cultivation. View spectacular camellias from Nuccio's Nursery and learn about this beautiful species of plant.

Regularly Scheduled Meetings

January 20th, 2010
February 17th, 2010
March 17th, 2010
All Meetings begin at 7 p.m

All events and meetings are held in the Casa del Prado building, room 101in Balboa Park. Located behind the Natural History Museum off Park Boulevard.

The Village Garden Club of La Jolla

Meet the Masters 2010

is honored to present

Nancy K. Clarke

Former White House Chief Floral Designer

A lecture, demonstration & picture presentation of her career serving six United States Presidents

Thursday, March 4, 2010
1:30 p.m.

Sherwood Auditorium, MCASD, La Jolla Reception following at St. James Hall

$55 VGCLJ members $65 non-members Includes Lecture & Reception
Complimentary Valet Parking at all events

$250 per person includes Private Cocktail Party, Wed. March 3 in a La Jolla home, plus Lecture & Reception

Information & reservations visit our website www.villagegardenclubofla jolla.com OR call (760) 814-1430
OR mail check to: The Village Garden Club of La Jolla 8514 Prestwick Drive La Jolla, CA 92037
Your check is your reservation. The Event benefits the VGCLJ Schoolyard Gardening Project.

CALIFORNIA GARDEN (USPS 0084-020)
San Diego Floral Association, Inc.
1650 El Prado #105
San Diego, CA 92101-1684

PERIODICALS POSTAGE

Coastal Sage Garden Design and Maintenance Services

Concept Plans
Landscape Blueprints
Irrigation Systems
Soil Analysis

Garden Transformation
General clean-ups
Rose and Fruit Trees

Soil Amending
Composting & Fertilizing

Budget Oriented

California Poppies - Photo by Jodi Shagg Inharmonyherbs.com

<u>You are invited!</u> Coastal Sage Gardening welcomes you to come celebrate a new year of gardening. Like ourselves, our gardens are always changing. This is a good time to visualize our future gardens and to create goals. Let's consider the environment. Let's think about saving water, creating holding ponds, installing greywater systems, removing lawns, and landscaping with native and drought tolerant plants. --John Noble